

はじめての THE FIGHTING! 一歩



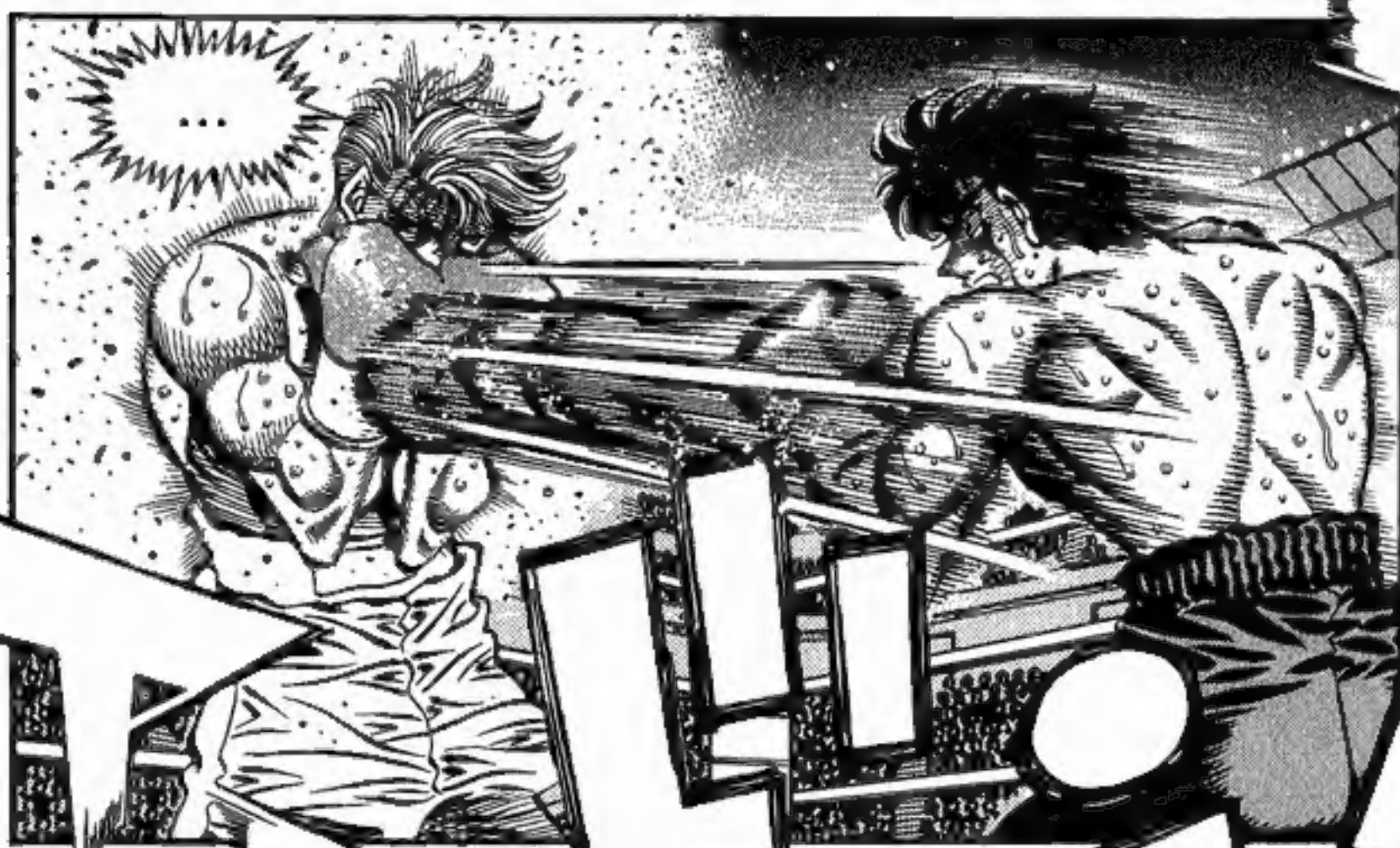


IF I BACK
OFF NOW,
I'M DONE
FOR!!



DON'T BACK
OFF NOW!

HE LOOKS
LIKE HE'S NOT
GONNA GIVE UP
NO MATTER
WHAT HAPPENS.







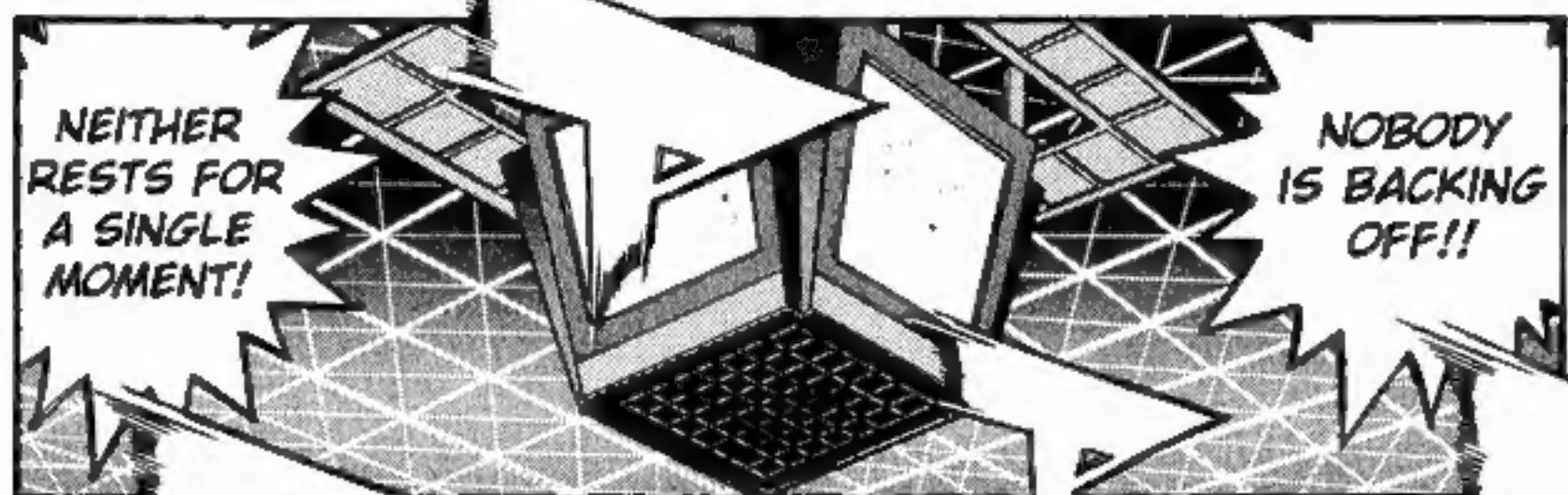
CAN YOU
BLAME 'EM?
THEY'RE
BOTH TAKING
CLEAN MID-
DLEWEIGHT
PUNCHES.

BOTH OF
THEM ARE
STARTING
TO GET
SHAKY.



AND
YET
THEY
STILL
...

THEY'RE
BOTH
FEELING
IT NOW
-DANI.



NEITHER
RESTS FOR
A SINGLE
MOMENT!

NOBODY
IS BACKING
OFF!!



THE ONLY WAY TO FIGHT NOW IS TO KEEP PUNCHING STRAIGHT AHEAD.

THEIR DEPTH PERCEPTION IS DISTORTED FROM THE BLEEDING.



THEY'RE STARTING TO COLLIDE EVEN MORE.



WHO HAS THE STRONGER BODY AND FISTS!?

THIS IS THE BASIS OF BOXING!!

THIS MATCH STARTED OUT AS A HIGH LEVEL EXCHANGE BUT... BOTH OF THEM HAVE EXHAUSTED THEIR OPTIONS AND IT'S NOW A BATTLE OF WILLS.



He may be struggling, but this is still definitely the best fight I've ever seen from him.



The surprises keep coming.

For Eagle to have this much trouble...



TRULY A MAGNIFICENT BATTLE

BUT

...



And I hope that the conclusion can be decided with their fists—

While I'm surprised at how he's been able to cast off the role of America's hero and is only now focusing on his strength,

I'm actually moved by it more than anything.



BOTH COMPETITORS ARE KNOCKED AWAY!!

ANOTHER DUAL EXCHANGE !!



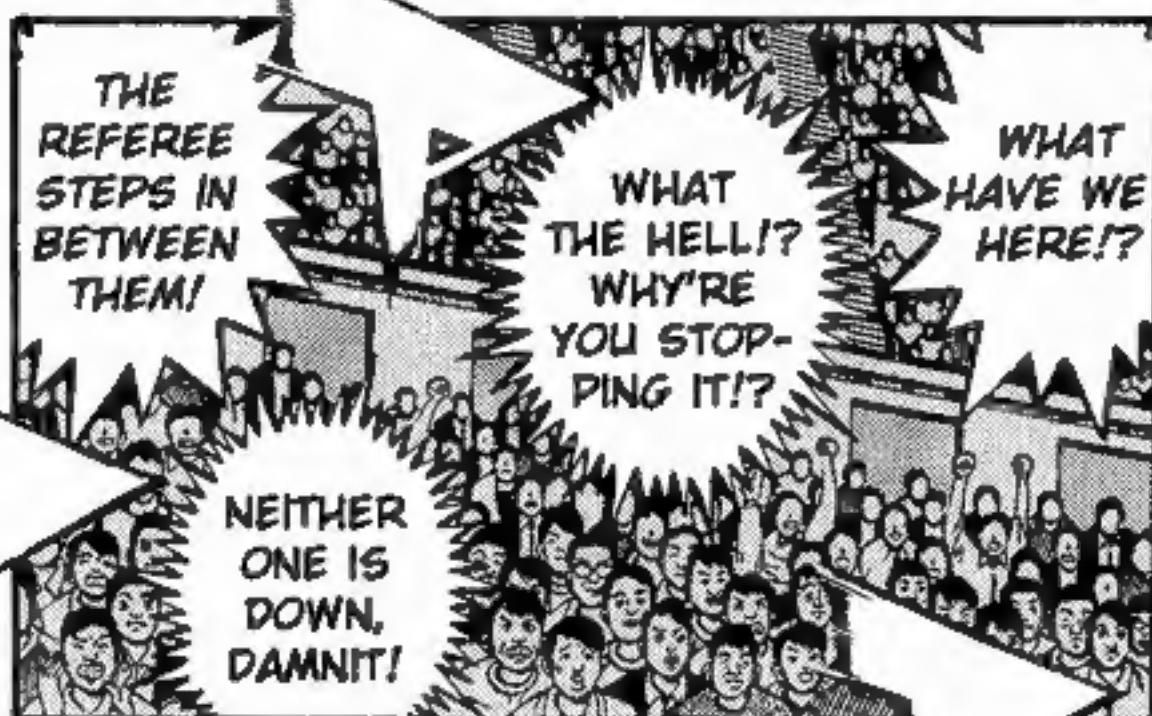
NN

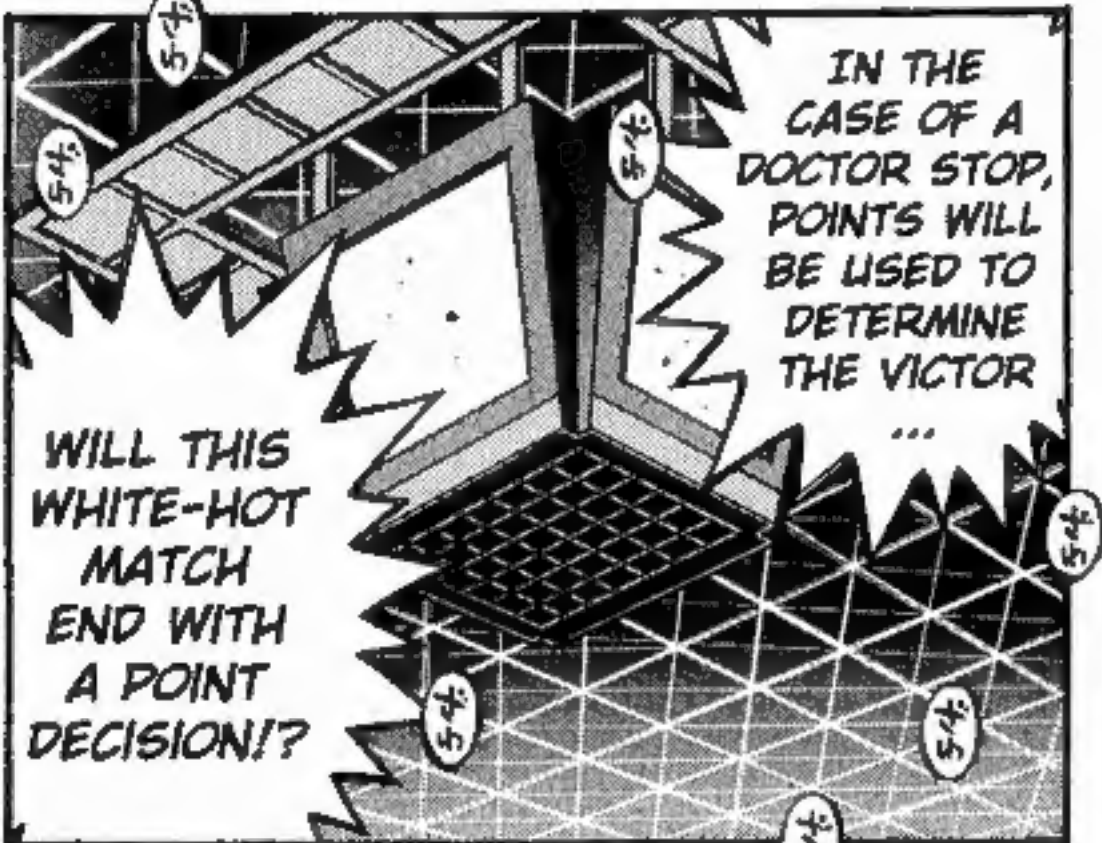
...



Gu...

li o o o







GH



THIS IS IT.



THE DOCTOR LOOKS DOWN...

AH !!



TAKE A GOOD LOOK, S'ONLY A SCRATCH, RIGHT?

DON'T MAKE A BIG FUSS.



I-IT'S ALMOST CUT DEEP ENOUGH TO REACH THE TENDON.

I-IM-POSSIBLE,



WE'RE FIGHTING WITH OUR LIVES.

WE'RE FIGHTING FOR THE BELT OVER HERE.

LOSING AN EYE ISN'T THAT BIG OF A DEAL.

DON'T BE A WET BLANKET.



I'M FIGHTIN' ON!!



NO ONE WILL BE SATISFIED.

AT THIS RATE,



BUT ...



REF!!

LET'S
GO!!

COME
ON!!

LET
THEM
DO IT!!

WHOA!
BOTH OF
THEM ARE
READY
TO GO!!

YEAH!!

CONTINUE
WITH THE
MATCH!

LET
THEM
FIGHT
!!

LET
THEM
FIGHT
!!

WE
WANNA
SEE
MORE!

IT'S A
THUNDEROUS
CALL FOR
THE MATCH TO
CONTINUE!!

LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

WOW, BOTH
COMBATANTS
RAISE THEIR
FISTS AND THE
ENTIRE ARENA
CALLS OUT FOR
THEM!!

LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

F
I
S
T
S
!!

ARE
MY!

The only thing
that's going to
end this match

YOU
WON'T BE
SATISFIED
THAT WAY
EITHER,
RIGHT?

A FEW
SECONDS!

HOW
MUCH
TIME'S
LEFT IN
THIS
ROUND
!?

LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

BUT THE
OFFICIALS
HAVE TO
CALMLY
MAKE THEIR
DECISION!


LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

IT'S A
SITUATION
THAT COULD
PLACE THE
FIGHTERS'
CAREERS
AT RISK!

LET THEM
FIGHT!!
LET THEM
FIGHT!!

Get ready
to stop that
bleeding!!

YES,
SIR!!




AAAHH
AND THE
REFEREE
GIVES THE
SIGNAL!!

Fight!!

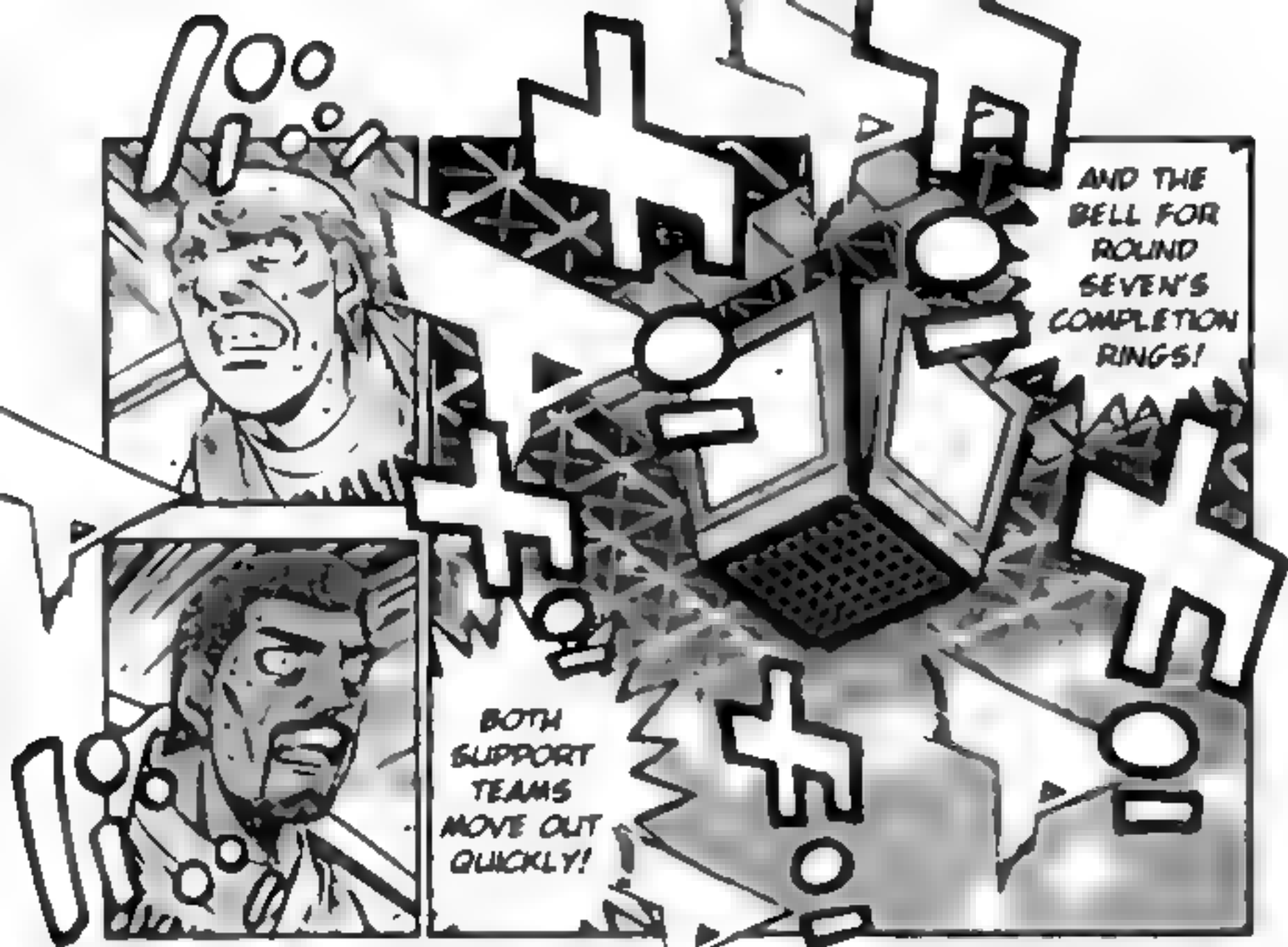
THE FIGHT
CONTINUES!
THE MATCH
IS GOING TO
RESUME!!



THAT'S
MORE
LIKE IT!!



NOW
YOU CAN
THROW
DOWN!!



AND THE
BELL FOR
ROUND
SEVEN'S
COMPLETION
RINGS!

BOTH
SUPPORT
TEAMS
MOVE OUT
QUICKLY!



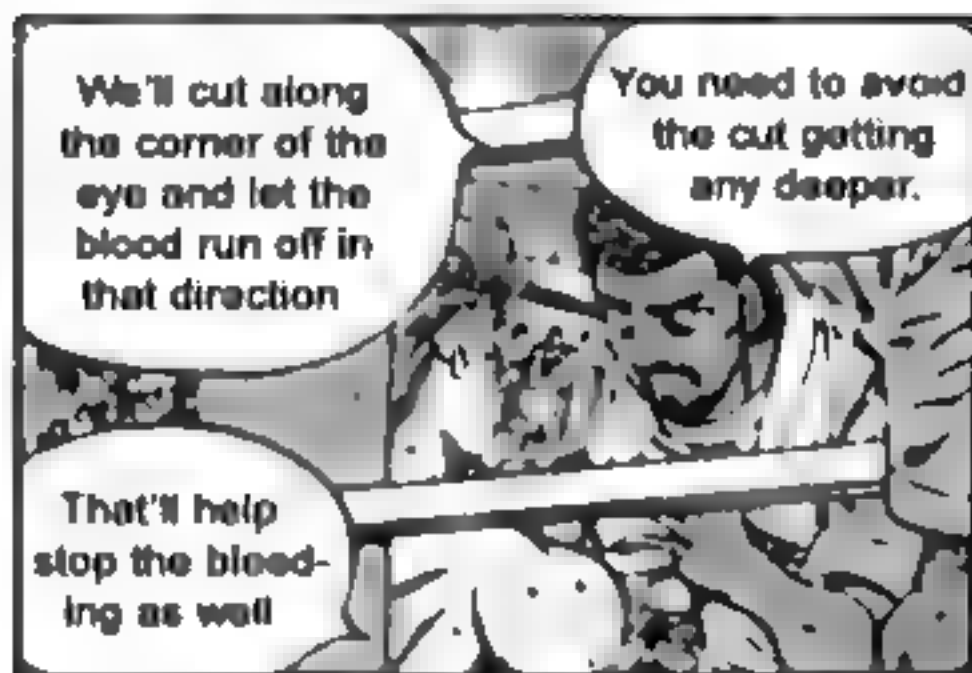
Of course
we will!

I told you,
we're the best
staff in all the
world, but...



We have to
avoid getting a
doctor stop.

You gotta do
something!



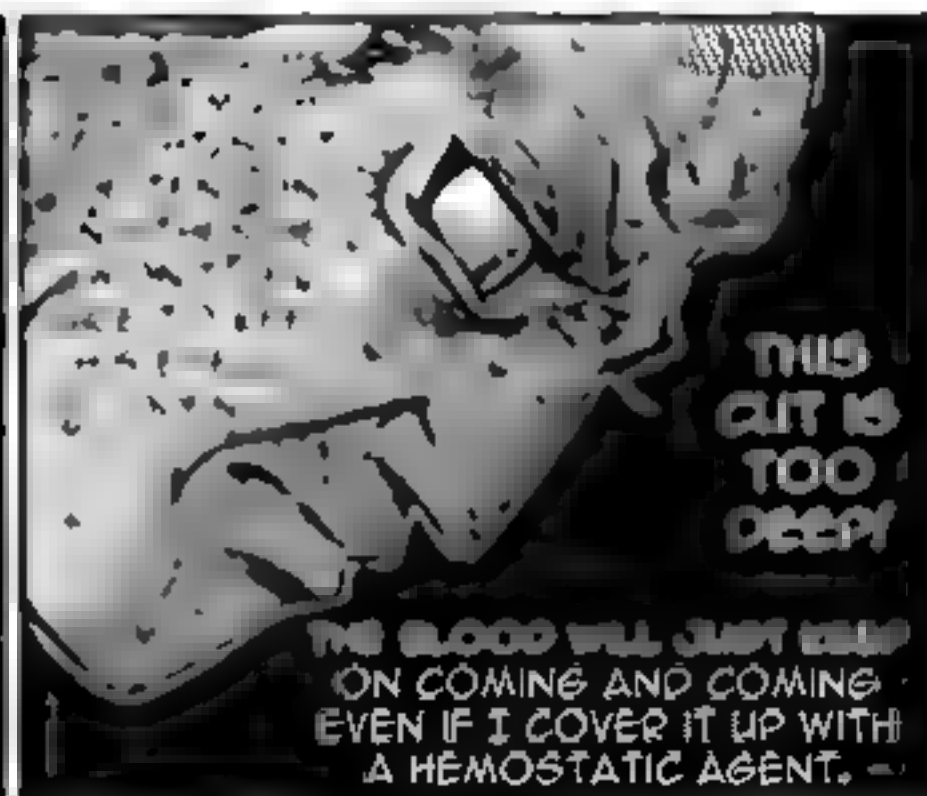
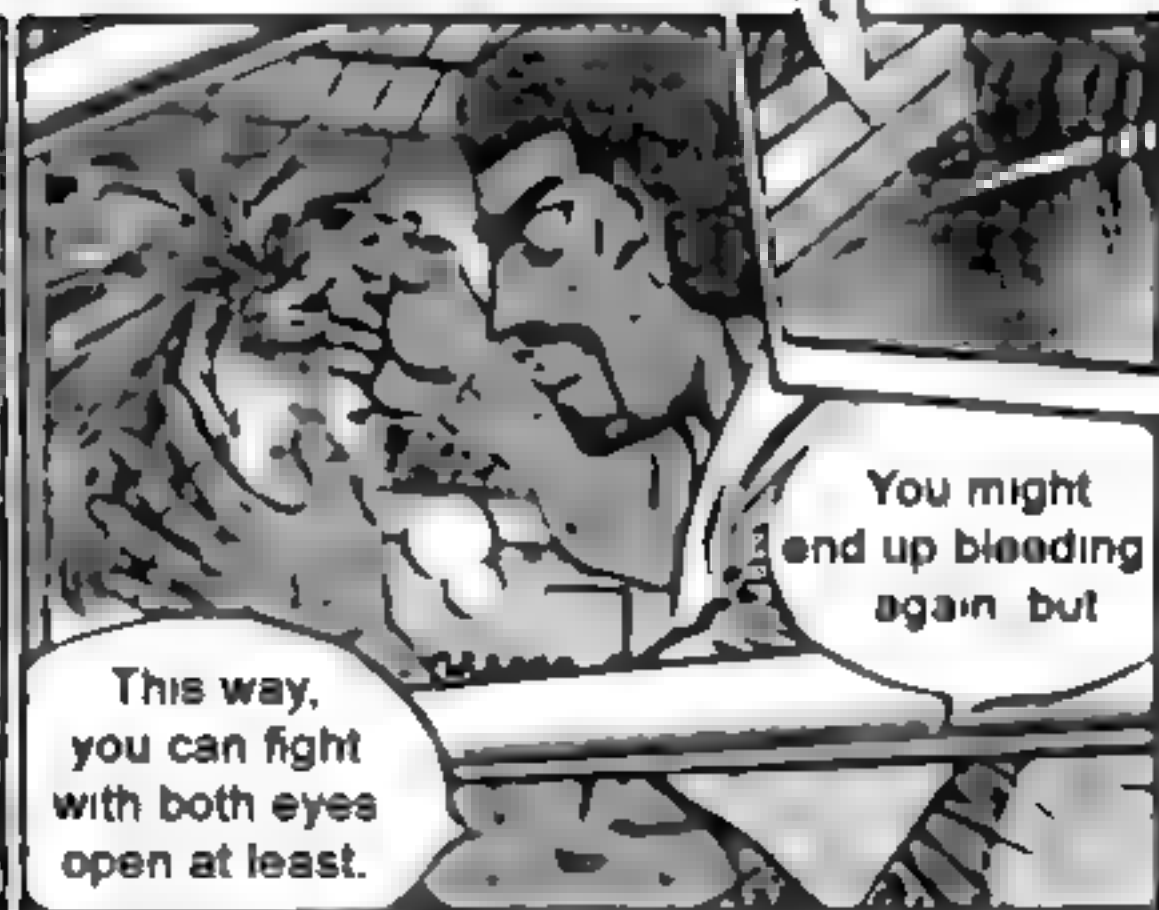
We'll cut along
the corner of the
eye and let the
blood run off in
that direction

That'll help
stop the bleed-
ing as well

You need to avoid
the cut getting
any deeper.



I'll have to
cut you







EVEN IF
IT COSTS
ME MY LIFE,
I'M GONNA
CLOSE THAT
WOUND!!



DON'T
YOU DARE
MAKE THAT
FACE!



TAKA-
MURA-
KUN...



YAGI-
CHAN,
WIPE
THE
BLOOD
OFF!

SHI-
NODA-
KUN,
MORE
HEMO-
STAT.



GOT
IT!



YUP
!!



IT
COSTS
YOU
YOUR
LIFE?

EVEN
IF...



HIS
SHOULDERS'RE
HEAV-
ING...



DON'T
RUSH
IT,

'CAUSE
THE BEST
HAS YET
TO COME.



THE
BLEED-
ING'S
STOP-
PED!

I CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT...

IM-
POS-
SIBLE
...



DON'T BE
IN SUCH
A HURRY
...

YOU'VE
ALREADY
GOT ONE
FOOT
IN THE
GRAVE,



JUST WAIT!
I'M GONNA
BRING YOU
THE BELT.

DID HE
STOP
IT HIM-
SELF!?

はじめての一步

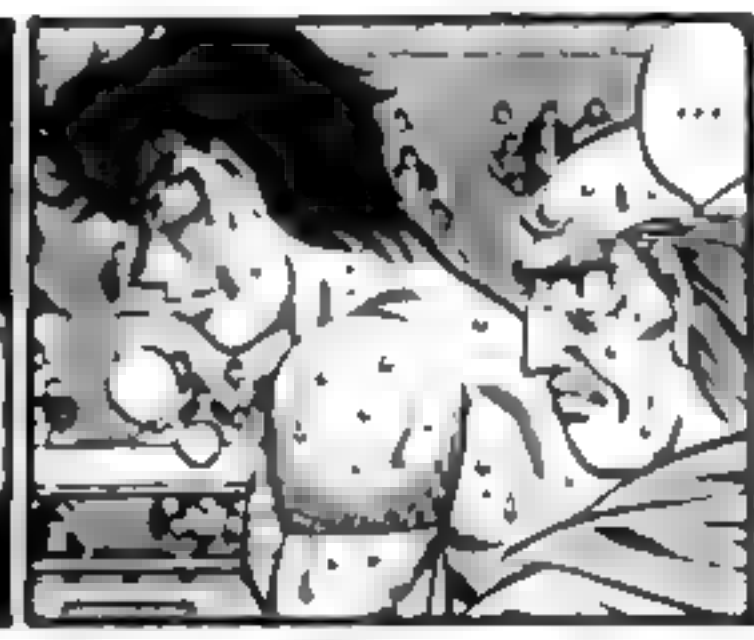




はじめの一歩

THE FIGHTING!







AND
THE BELL
TO KICK
OFF ROUND
EIGHT HAS
RUNG!!

BOTH
COMPETITORS
COULD BE
THE VICTIMS
OF A DOCTOR
STOP AT ANY
GIVEN TIME!

WHETHER
THEY LIKE
IT OR NOT,
THIS ROUND
MAY BE THE
FINALE!!





FIRE'S
JUP A
ONE-
TWO!!

THE
CHAMP-
ION
...



YEAH
HE CAN
DO IT!

OH-
CHECK
OUT HIS
SWAY!
HIS
DEPTH
PERCEP-
TION IS
BACK!



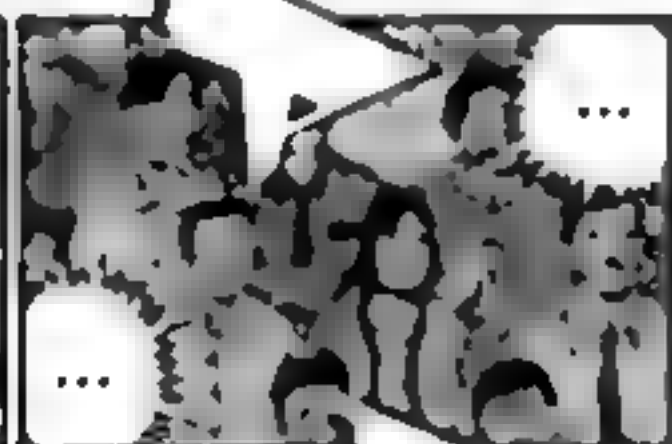
IT'S A
CLEAN
HIT!!

ONE-
TWO!!



YOU CAN'T
SWAY BACK
YOU GOTTA
WEAVE ALL
OF YOUR
BODY!

HE CAN
STEP IN SO
THAT IT
GOES EVEN
FURTHER!



...

...



THE
CHAMPION
IS FIRING
AWAY WITH
UNRIVALED
ACCURACY
HERE!!

WHOA
AND
ANOTHER
LEFT
CATCHES
HIM!



SO
HURRY
AND GIVE
ME THE
BELT AL-
READY

THE OLD
MAN SAID
HE CAN'T
WAIT TOO
LONG

I DON'T
CARE
ABOUT
THIS
STUPID
LITTLE
LEFT

DAMN IT!
HE'S ALL
HEATED
UP AND
TRYING TO
JUST DIVE
STRAIGHT
IN!



DAMN
IT!!



ANOTHER
LEFT CON-
NECTS AT
THE SAME
TIME!

THE CHAL-
LENGER
MISSES
AND...



HE'LL
COM-
PLETELY
LOSE ALL
VISIBILITY

IF HIS
RIGHT EYE
BECOMES
SWOLLEN
AND THE
LEFT GETS
BLOOD IN IT
AGAIN,

HE'S TAKEN
SO MANY
JABS THAT
HIS RIGHT
EYE HAS
STARTED TO
SWELL UP.

NOT
GOOD.



A HUGE
ONE IS
COMING!

DODGE
THAT
LEFT!!





IT'S
ANOTHER
DIRECT
HIT!!

A
RIGHT
!!



RGH



FE...

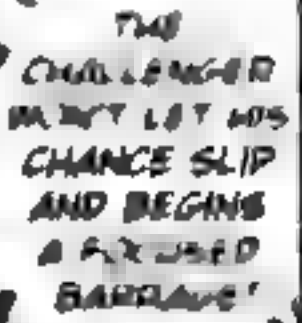
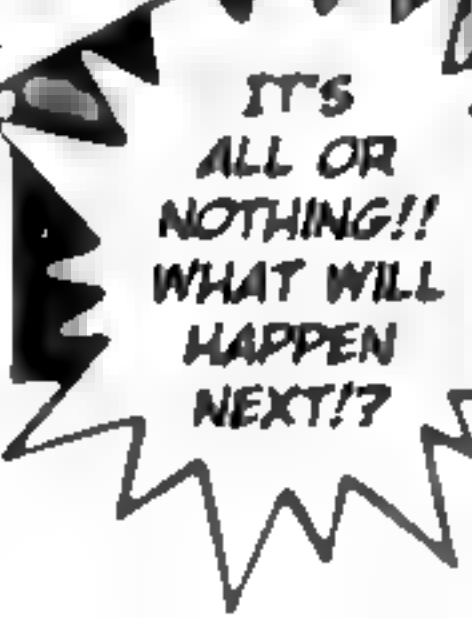
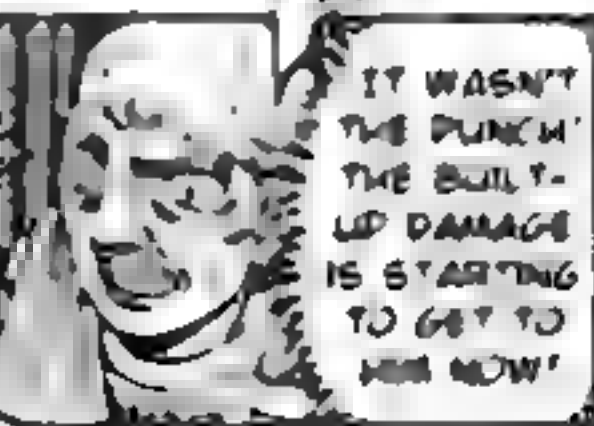
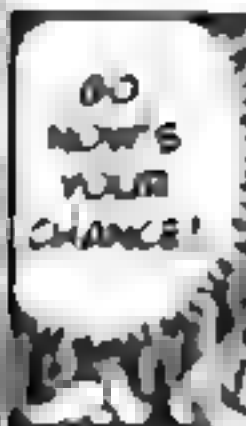
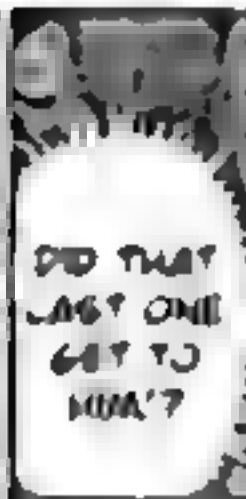


!!



WHOA,
WHAT AN
UPPER-
CUT!!

IT
GRAZES
BY THE
CHAMP'S
CHEEK!



DID THAT
LAST ONE
GET TO
HIM?

HE'S
LOST HIS
FOOTING!

GO
NOW'S
YOUR
CHANCE!

IT WASN'T
THE PUNCH!
THE BUILT-
UP DAMAGE
IS STARTING
TO GET TO
HIM NOW!

THE
CHALLENGER
RESPONDS
BY PUTTING
UP HIS DE-
FENSES!

THE
CHALLENGER
MAY LET HIS
CHANCE SLIP
AND BEGINS
A FURIOUS
BARRAGE!

IT'S
ALL OR
NOTHING!!
WHAT WILL
HAPPEN
NEXT!?



THE CHALLENGER
IS STARTING
TO PUSH
THROUGH!!

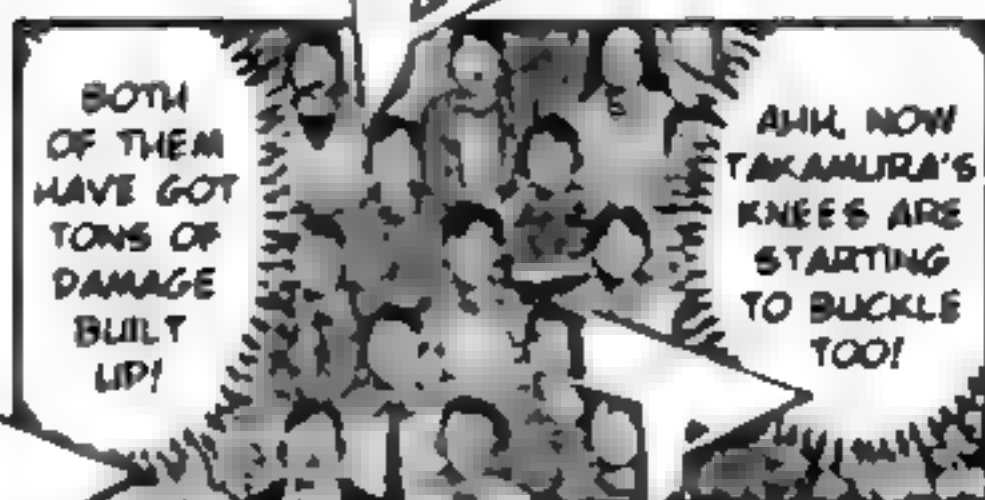
OH!
BUT HE'S
UNABLE
TO KEEP
UP HIS
GUARD!

YOU
DON'T
KNOW
WHEN TO
QUIT

GIVE
THE HELL
UP AL-
READY!

A ONE-
TWO IS
LAUNCHED
!!

AND
WITH A
SECOND'S
CHANCE,



BOTH
OF THEM
HAVE GOT
TONS OF
DAMAGE
BUILT
UP!

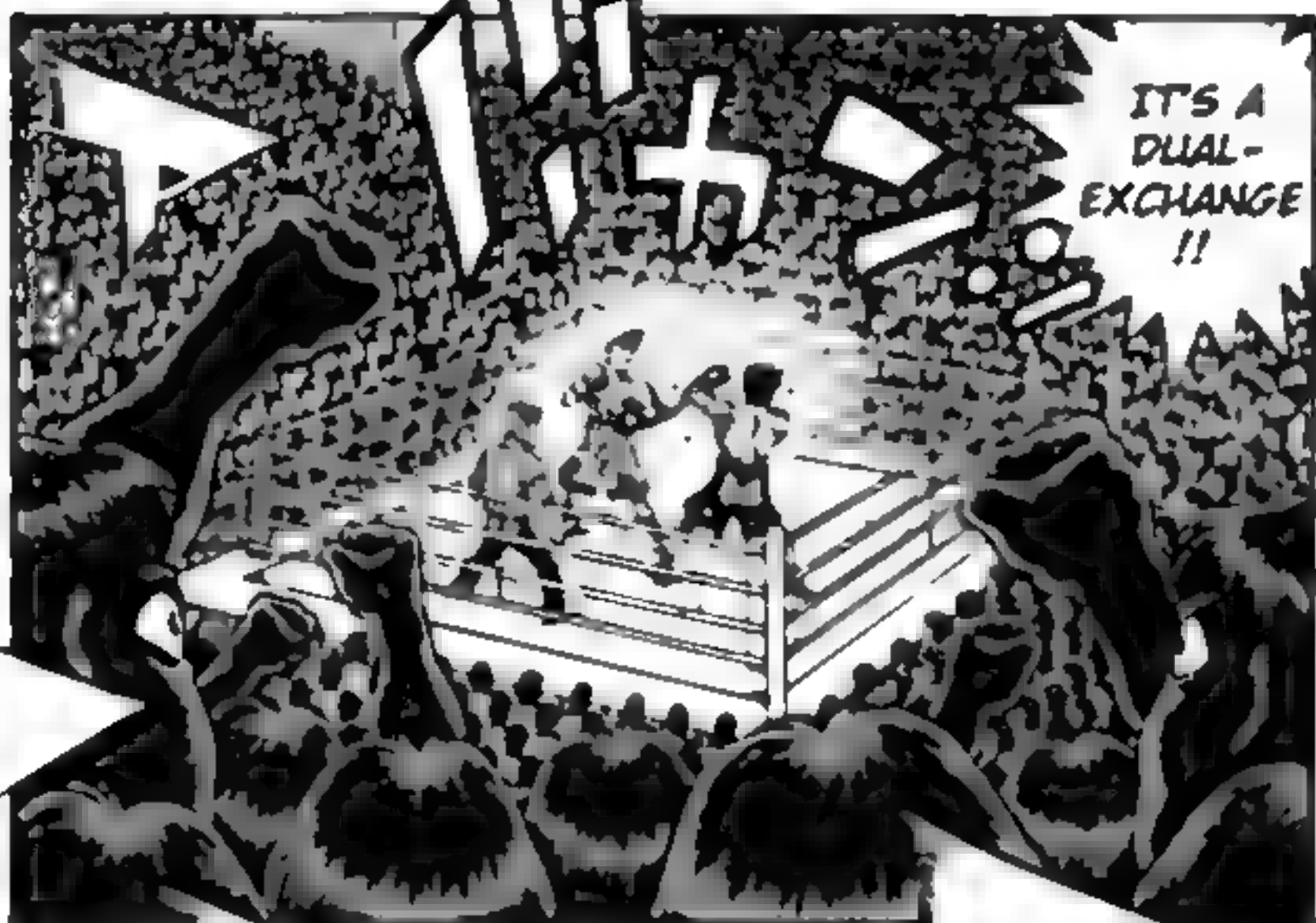
AHH, NOW
TAKAMURA'S
KNEES ARE
STARTING
TO BUCKLE
TOO!



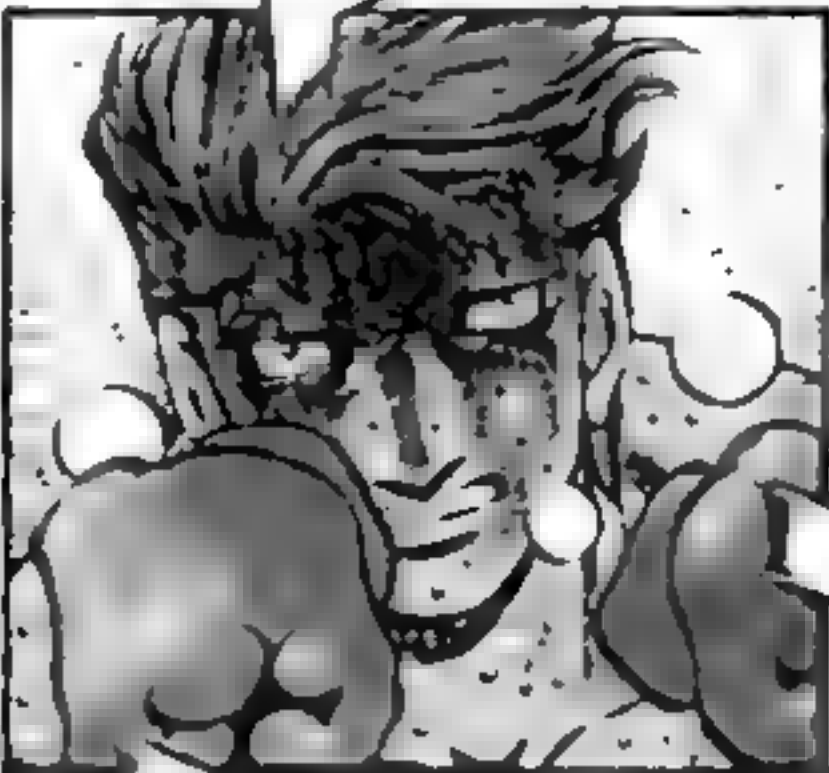
Don't give him a
chance to come
alive again!



Go! Eagle!!

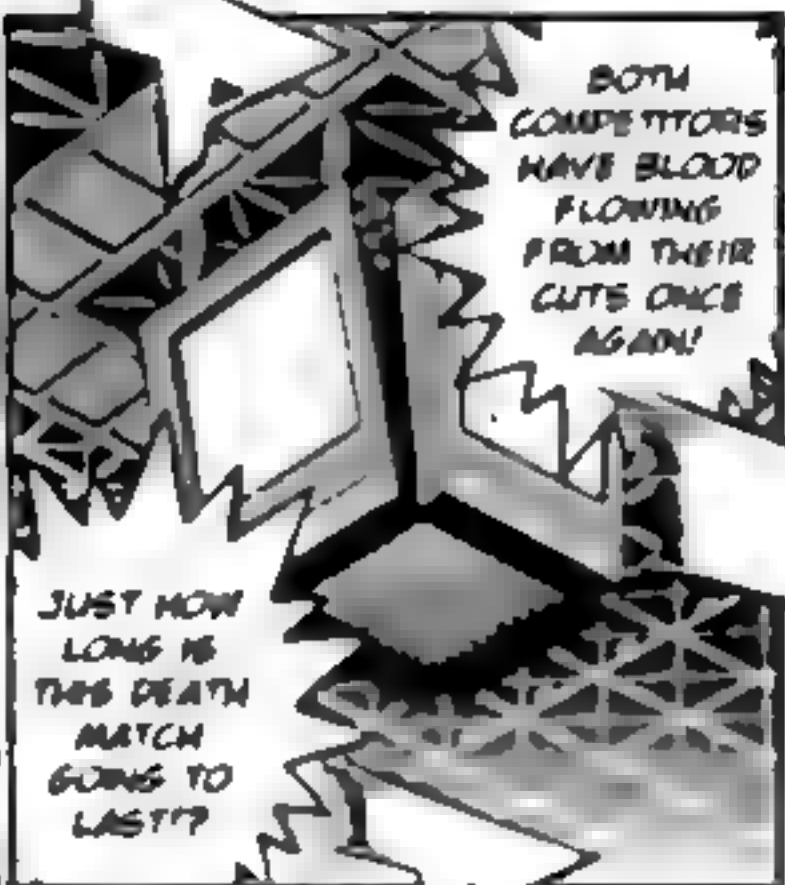


IT'S A
DUAL-
EXCHANGE
!!



I'm going to end
it with my fists!

I don't want
the doctor to stop
the match



BOTH
COMPETITORS
HAVE BLOOD
FLOWING
FROM THEIR
CUTS ONCE
AGAIN!



TAKING
SO
MANY
OF MY
PUNCH-
ES!

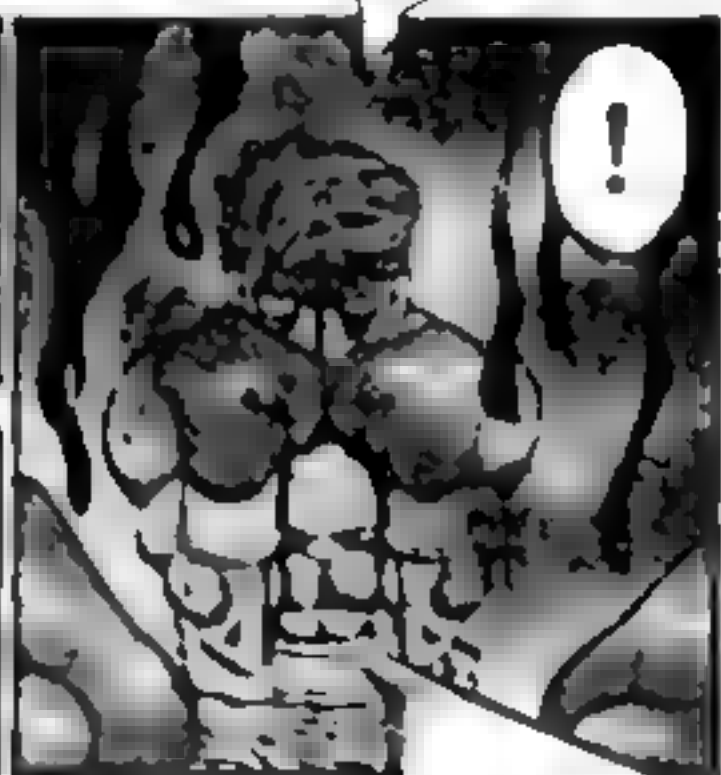
HE STILL
ISN'T
GIVING
UP EVEN
AFTER

JUST HOW
LONG IS
THIS DEATH
MATCH
GOING TO
LAST?



IT'S
NOTHING
BUT
TOO
EASY

HE'S
NOT
GIVING
UP
EVEN
AFTER



!



THIS
IS...

NO!



AH
...



はじめての一步



BOTH
EYES
UP

YOU
IN FRONT

OW

YAMA-
MURA
SAN

TA-

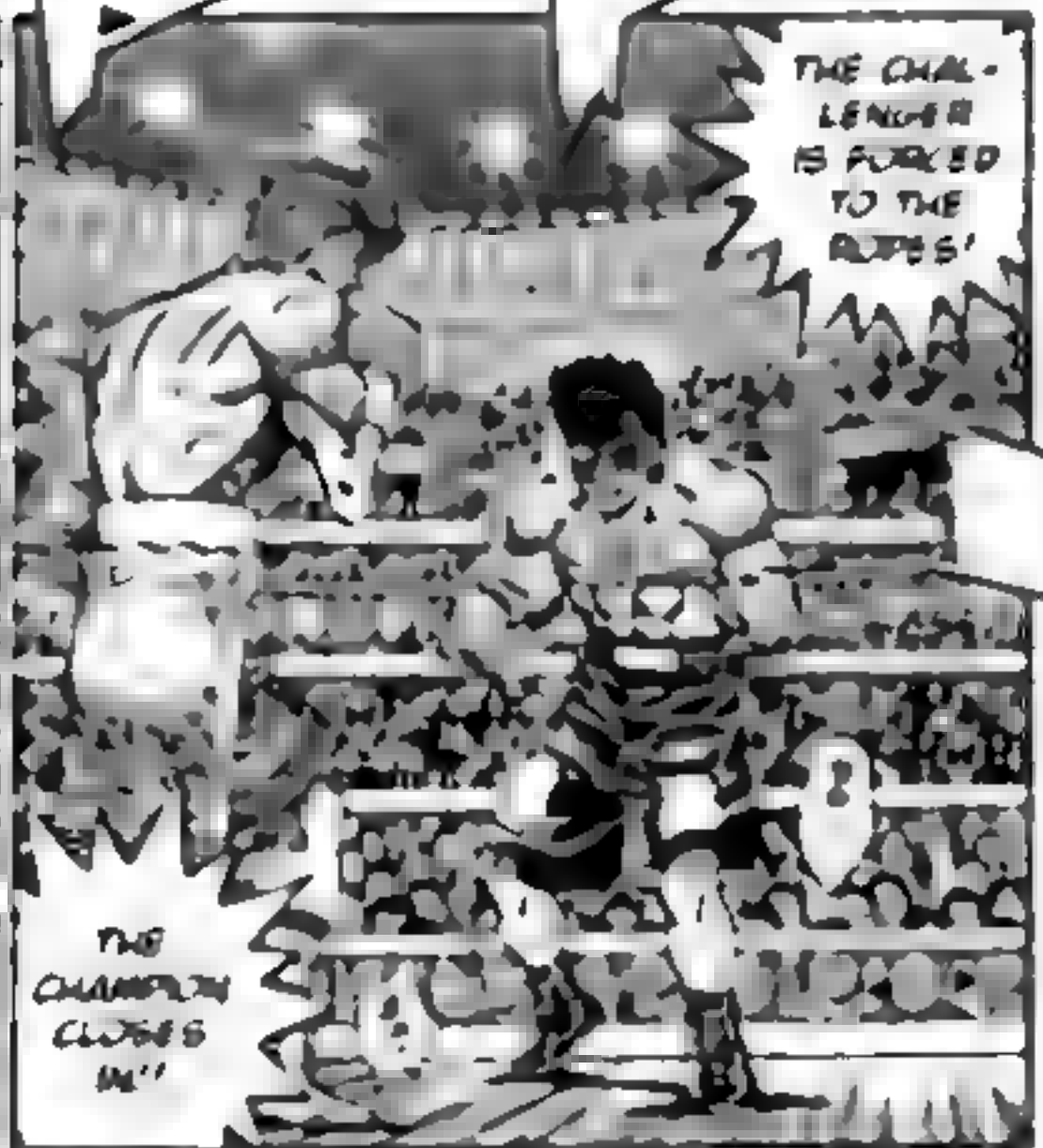
LEFT!

THE
CHAMP
WITH
A

AFTER
LEFT!!

Round 55 | Beyond a Death Match

30



A
RIIIGHT
!!

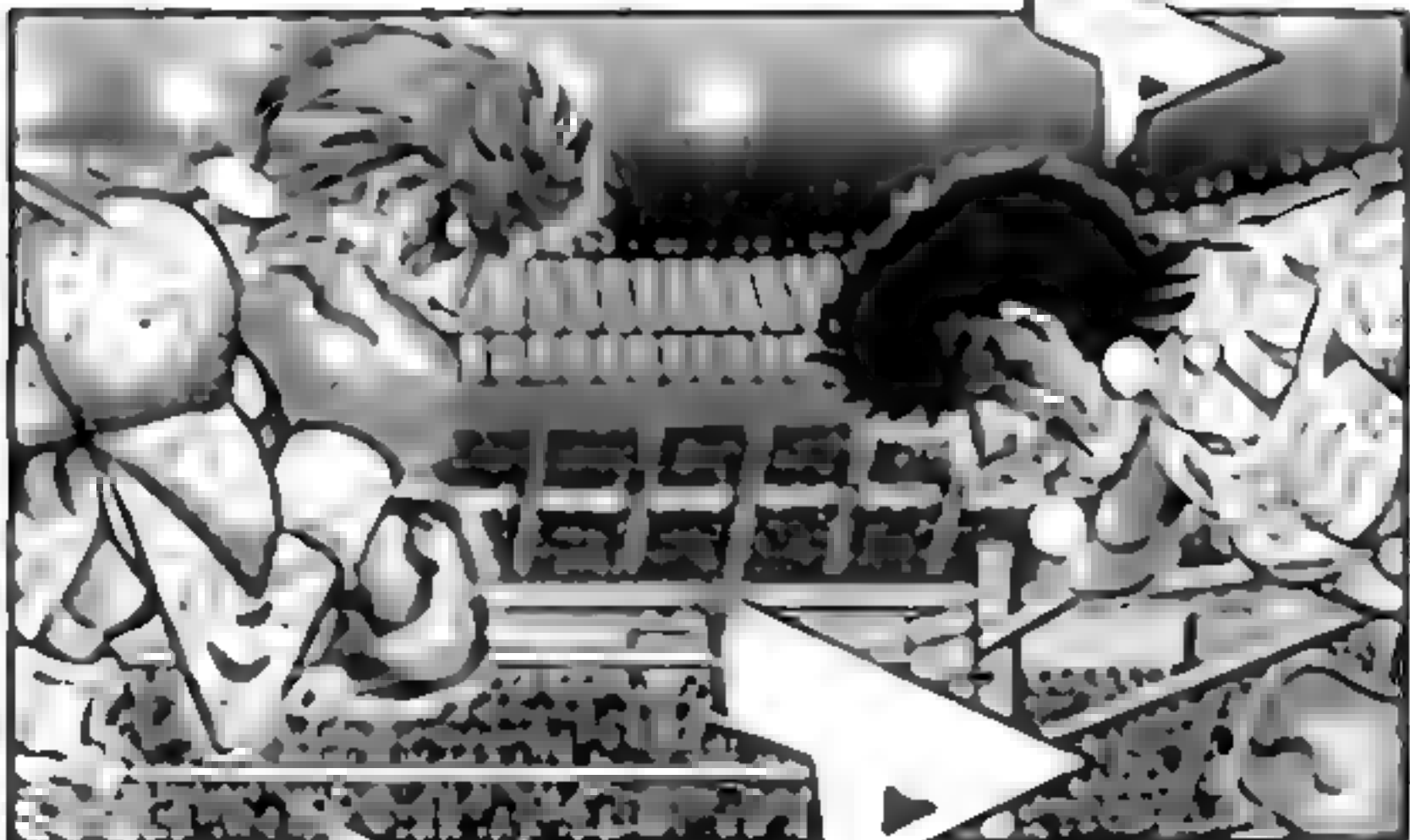
IT'S
A FULL
SWING
!!

ALL I
CAN
SEE IS
THE
FLOOD
NOW



TAKA-
MURA
AAA!!

あゝ



YOU'RE
COMING
WITH
ME!!



IT'S A
DOUBLE
DOWNWW
WWWN!!

BOTH
FIGHTERS
ARE
DOWNNN
NNNN!!

WHOA!
THEY'RE
DOWN!

AS HE WAS
FALLING,
HE THREW A
HOOK LIKE A
CLOTHESLINE
TO TAKE HIM
WITH HIM...

What
tenacity

TAKA-
MURA
...

TA-
...

WHAT AN
EXTRA-
ORDINARY
OCCUR-
RENCE!

I'VE
NEVER
SEEN A
DOUBLE
DOWN
BEFORE
-DANI.

Y-
YEAH.

TAKA-
MURA-
SAN!!





AND THIS
COUNT'S
WORKING
AGAINST
BOTH OUR
FIGHTERS!

O-...
ONE!!

THE
BEWILDERED
REFEREE
BEGINS
WITH THE
COUNT!

2
!!



OR IS
THE MATCH
GOING TO
END WITH
A DOUBLE
K.O.!??

GET
UP AND
YOU'LL
WIN!

UWAAA,
GET UP
TAKAMU-
RAAA!

WHO
WILL BE
THE ONE
ABLE TO
RISE TO
HIS FEET
FIRST!?



TAKA-
MURA-
SAN!!

GET
UP,
PLEASE

COME
ON,
STAND
UP.

GET UP,
TAKA-
MURA-
SAN!

GET
UP!



AH
...

4
!!

3
!!

GET UP,
TAKA-
MURA!

Stand up,
Eagle!!

THE
CHAMP'S
GONNA
GET UP!

HE
SITS UP!
BUT WILL
HE BE
ABLE TO
STAND!?

THE
FIRST TO
REACT IS
THE CHAM-
PION!

HE'S
AL-
READY
AHEAD!

PLEASE
STAND UP
TAKAMURA,
YOU HAVE
TO WIN!

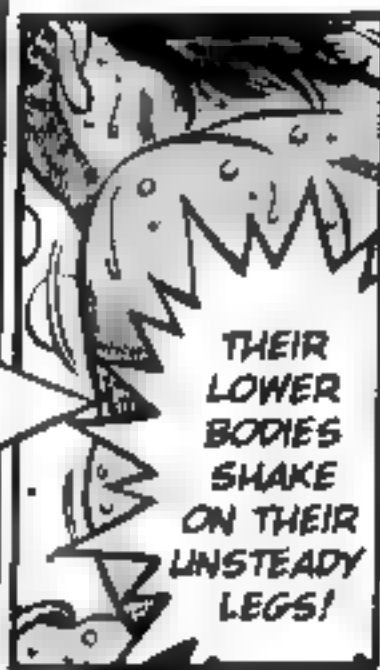
Ah...agh!!

NN...
GRH!

GU
...

IT'S AS
IF YOU CAN
SEE BOTH OF
OUR FIGHTER'S
SPIRIT SUP-
PORTING THEM
INSIDE OF
THIS RING!!

THEY'RE
BOTH UP!!
BOTH MEN
STAND UP
AT ALMOST
THE SAME
INSTANT!



Over here,
Takamura!

I'm right
here!

AND THE
CHALLENGER
HAS HIS
GUARD UP,
BUT IS HE
STILL CON-
SCIOUS?!

THE CHAMP
PUSHES
HIM TO THE
ROPE WITH
A SERIES OF
ONE-TWOS!

DON'T
LOSE,
TAKA-
MURA!

WHOA,
DOOO
TTTTT!

YOU
CAN DO
THIS!

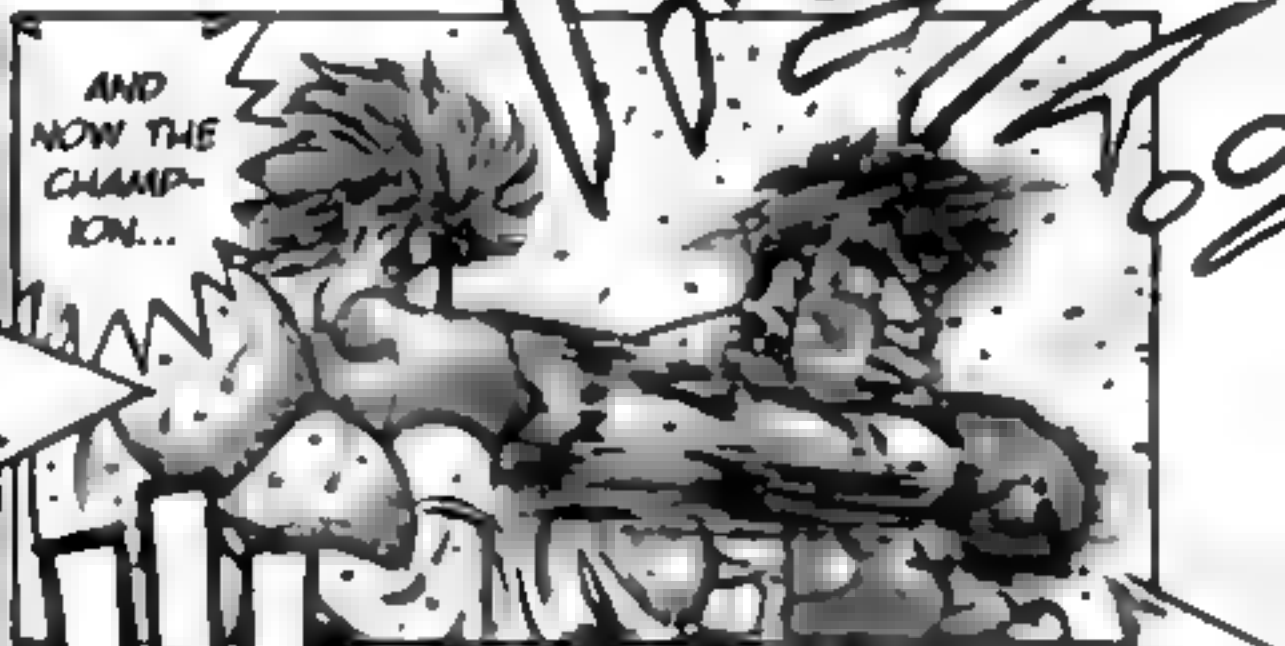
THE
CHAMP'S
BODY IS
BLOWN
AWAY!!

HE
FIGHTS
BACK!!



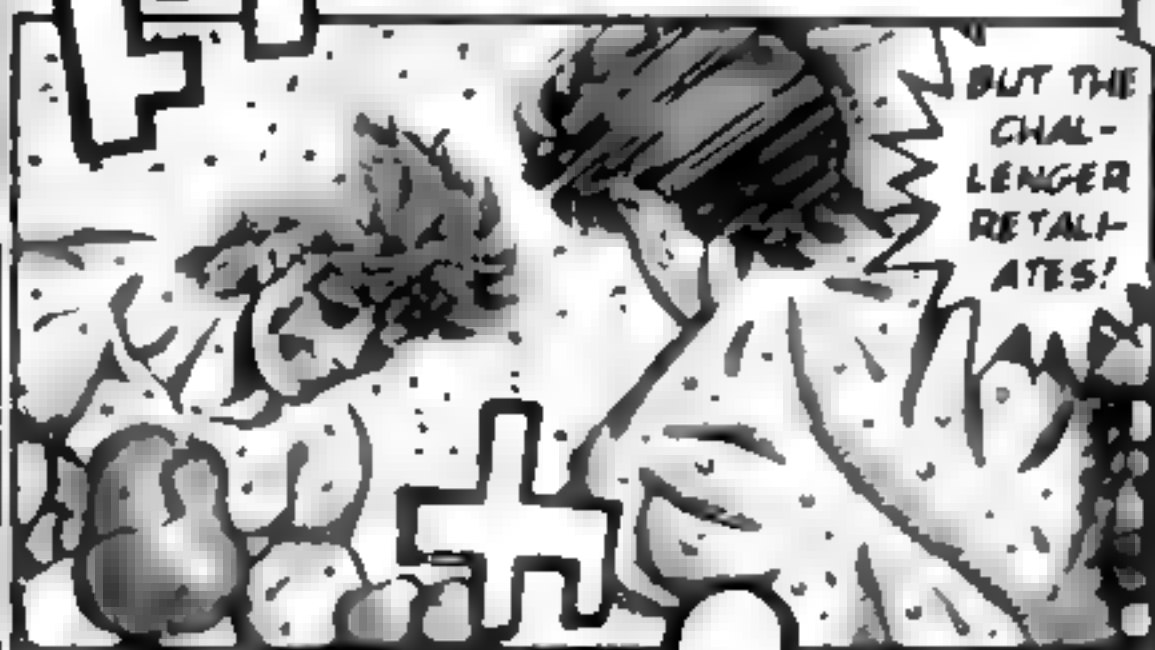
IT'S LIKE
BOTH COM-
PETITORS
ARE TAKING
TURNS HIT-
TING EACH
OTHER!!

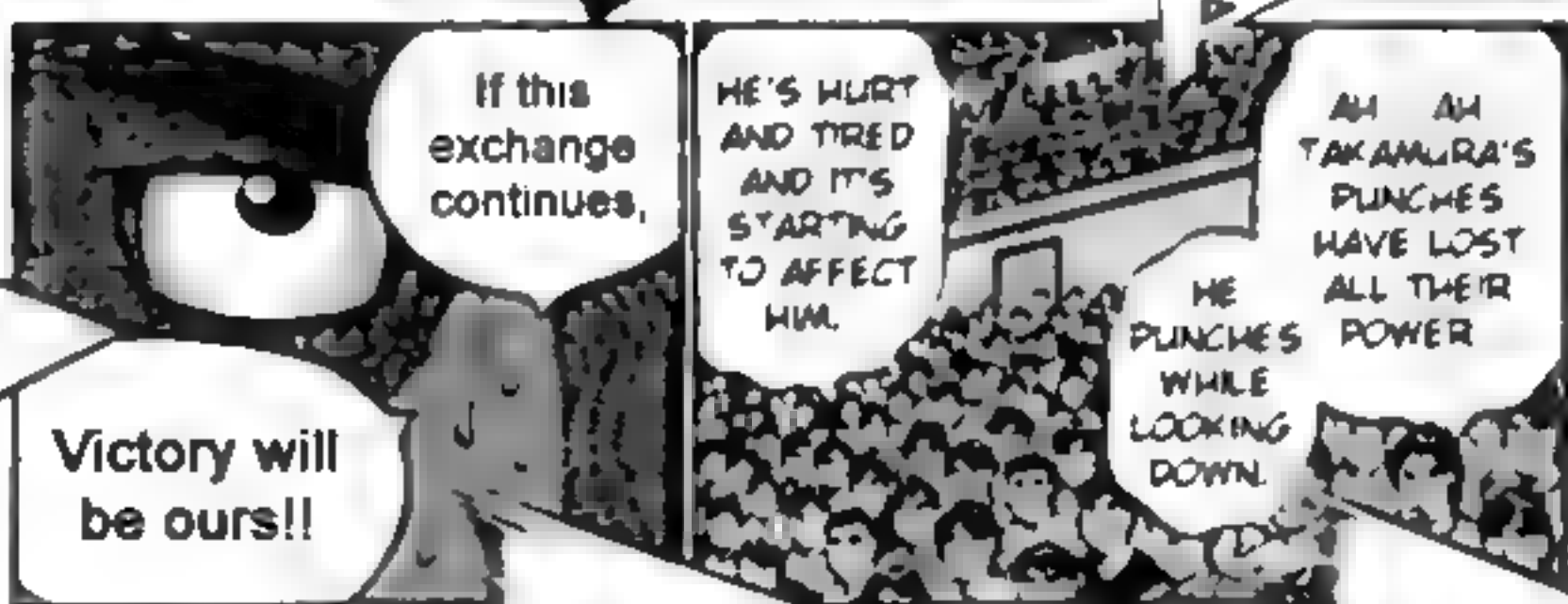
AND
NOW THE
CHAMP-
ION...



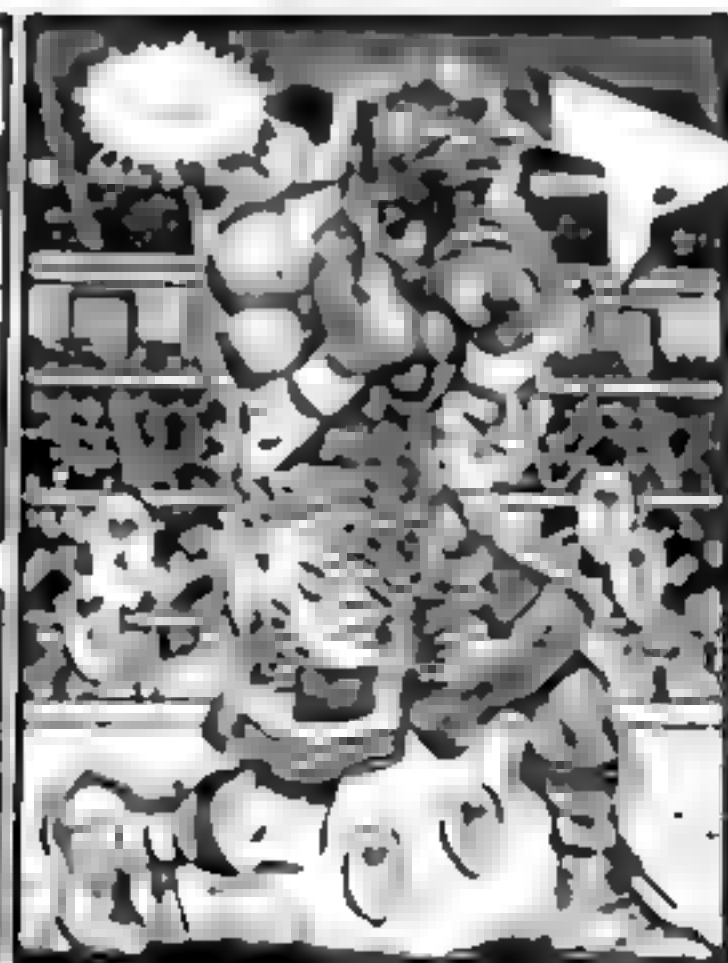
WILL THE
MATCH BE
FINISHED IN
AN INSTANT!?
OR WILL THIS
CONTINUE ON
ENDLESSLY!?

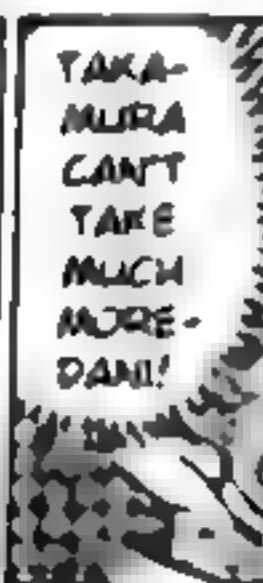
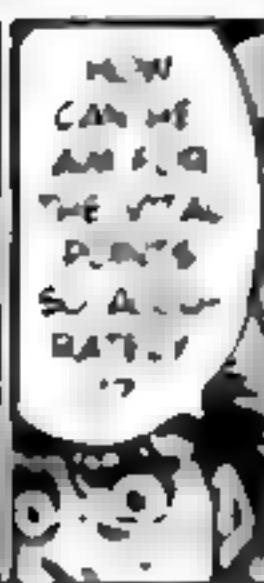
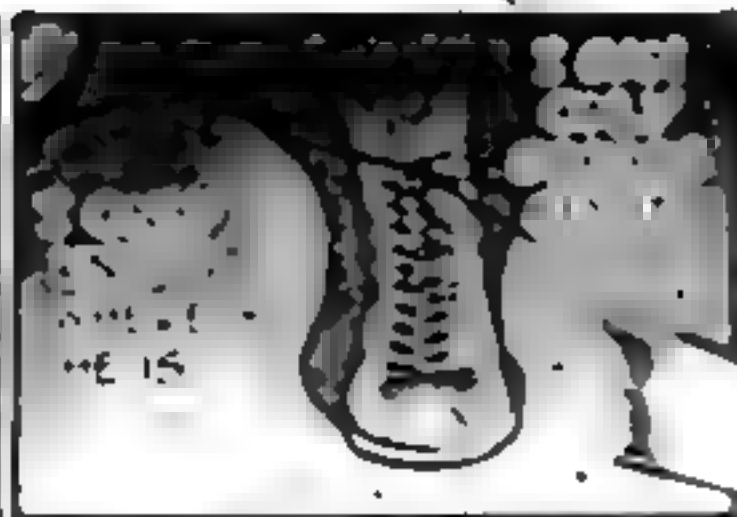
BUT THE
CHAL-
LENGER
RETAH-
ATES!









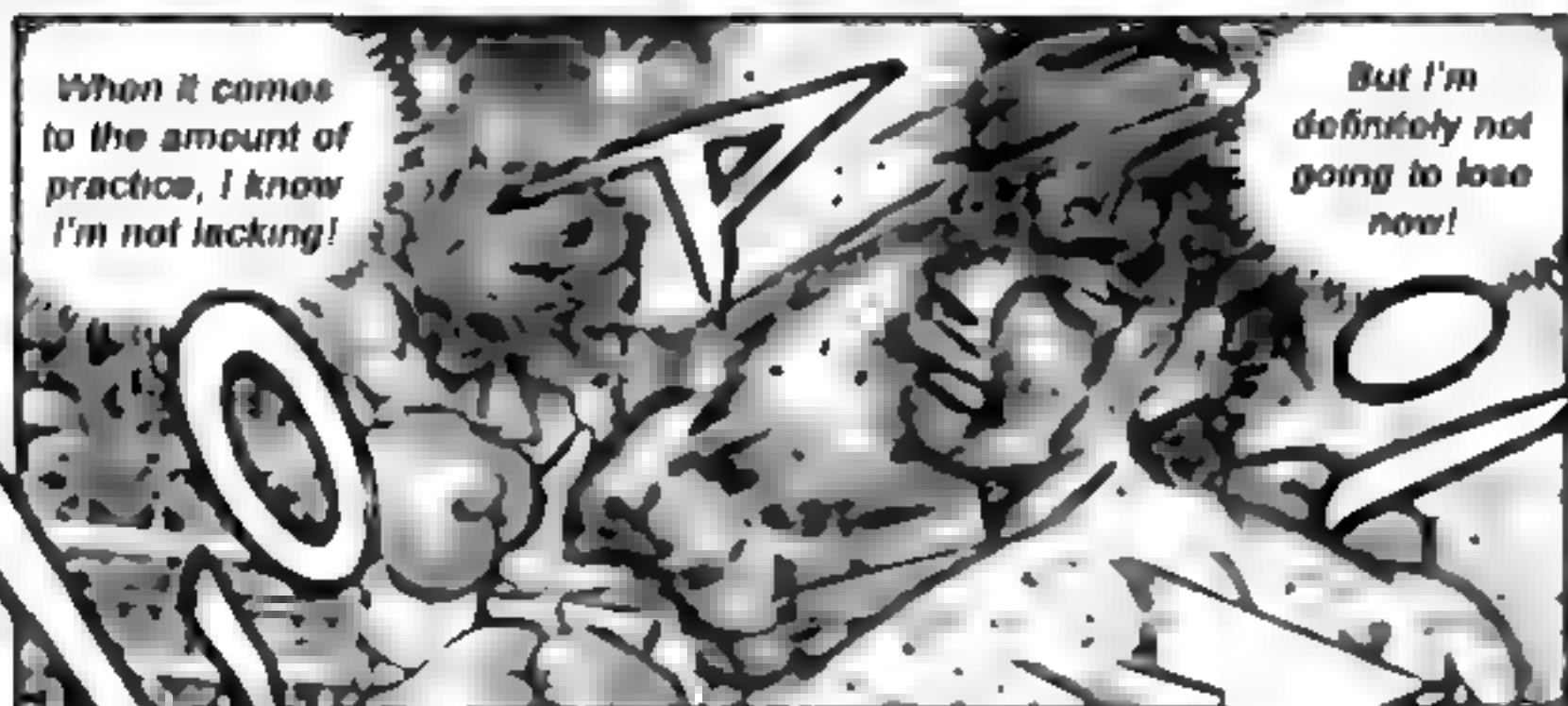




はじめての THE FIGHTING!! 大

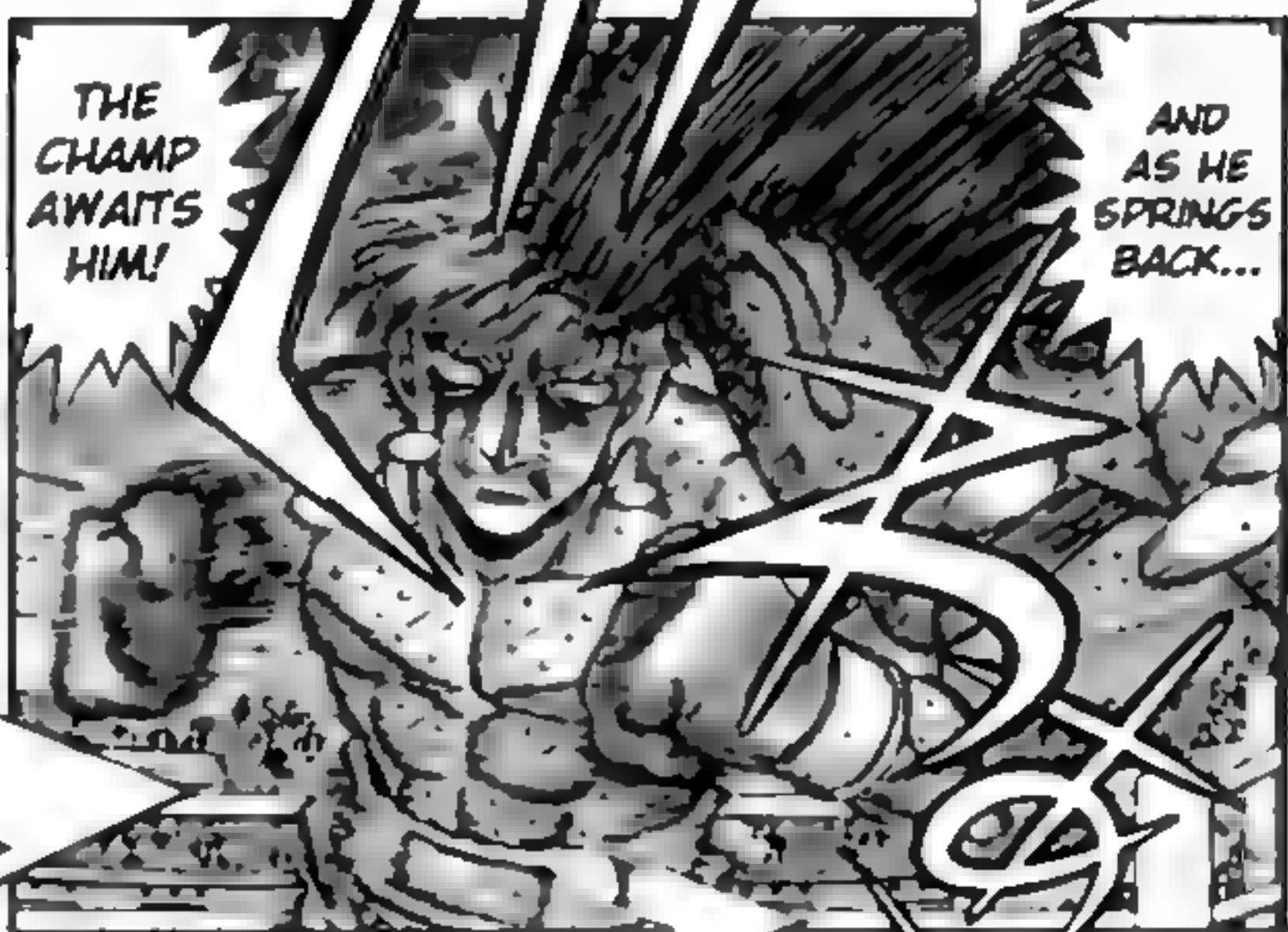


Round 555 A Hard-Won Victory



—I'm satisfied!!





THE
CHAMP
AWAITS
HIM!

AND
AS HE
SPRINGS
BACK...

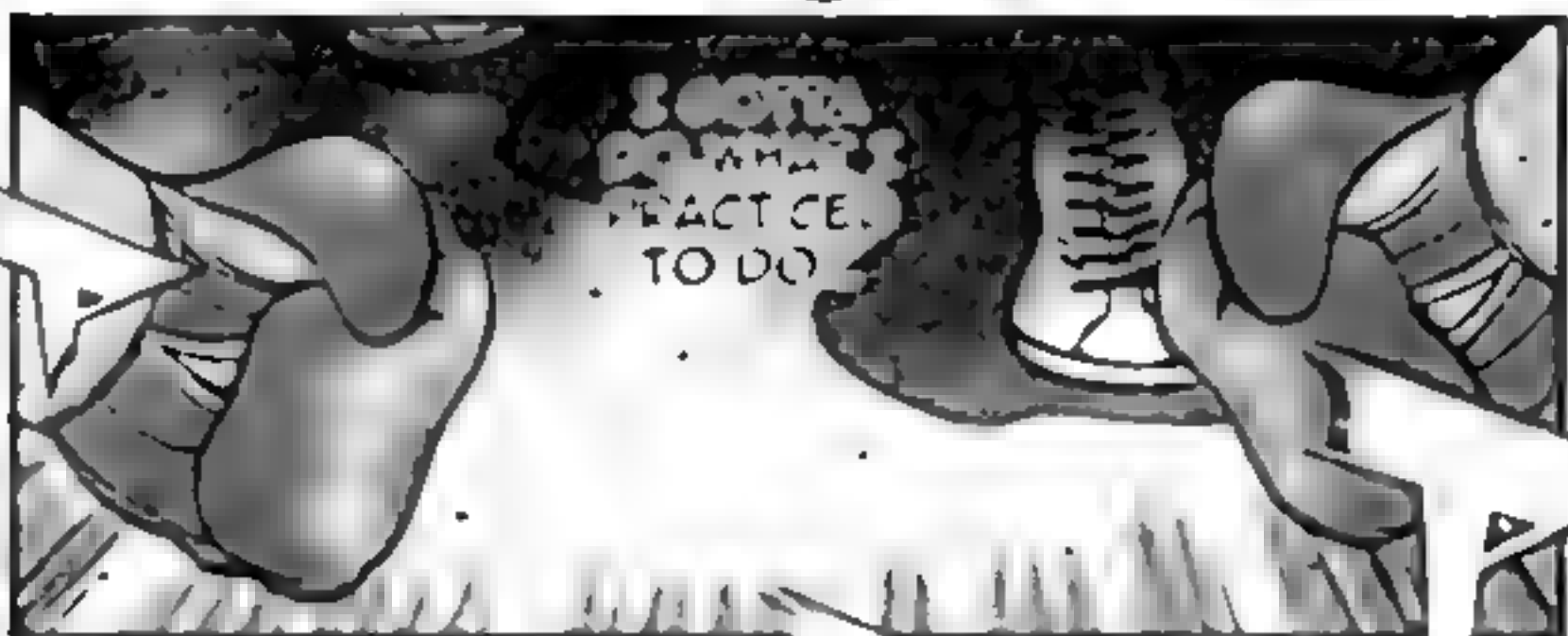


WHAT?

WHAT'S
THE
POINT
OF ME
WAIT-
ING!!

はー

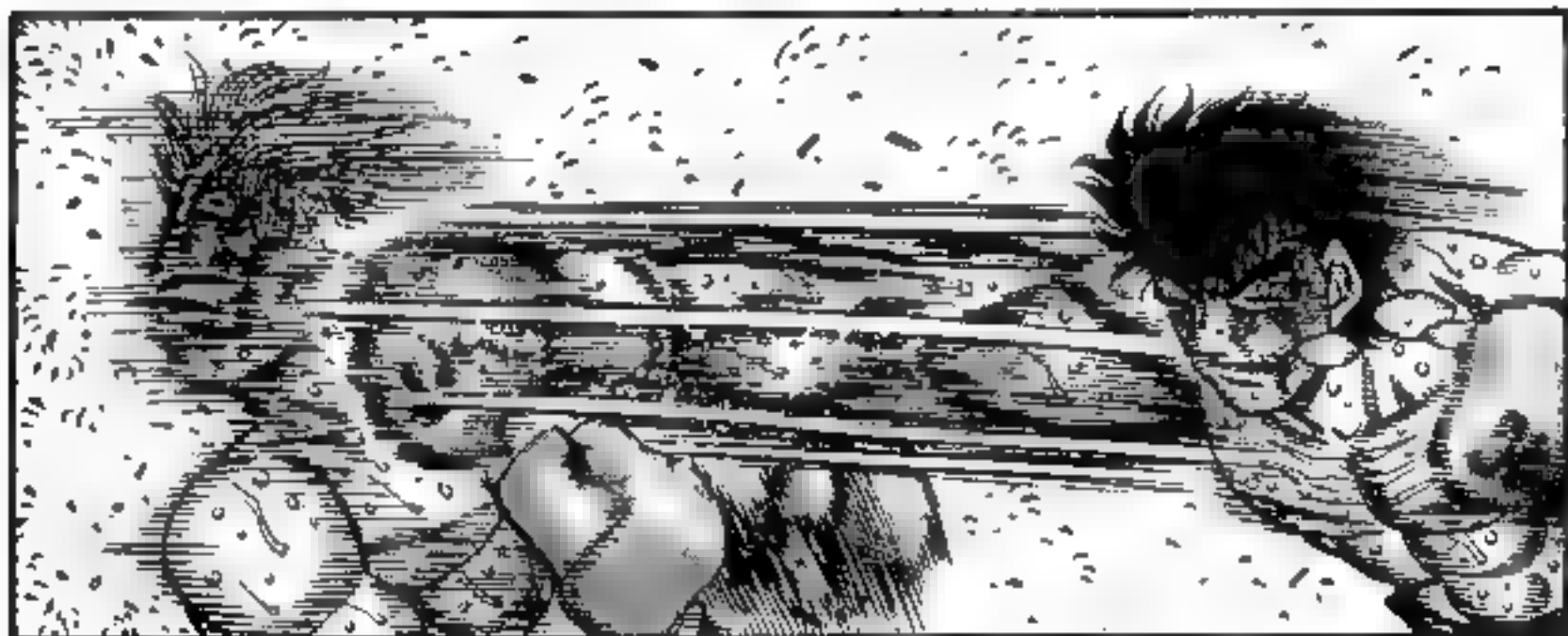
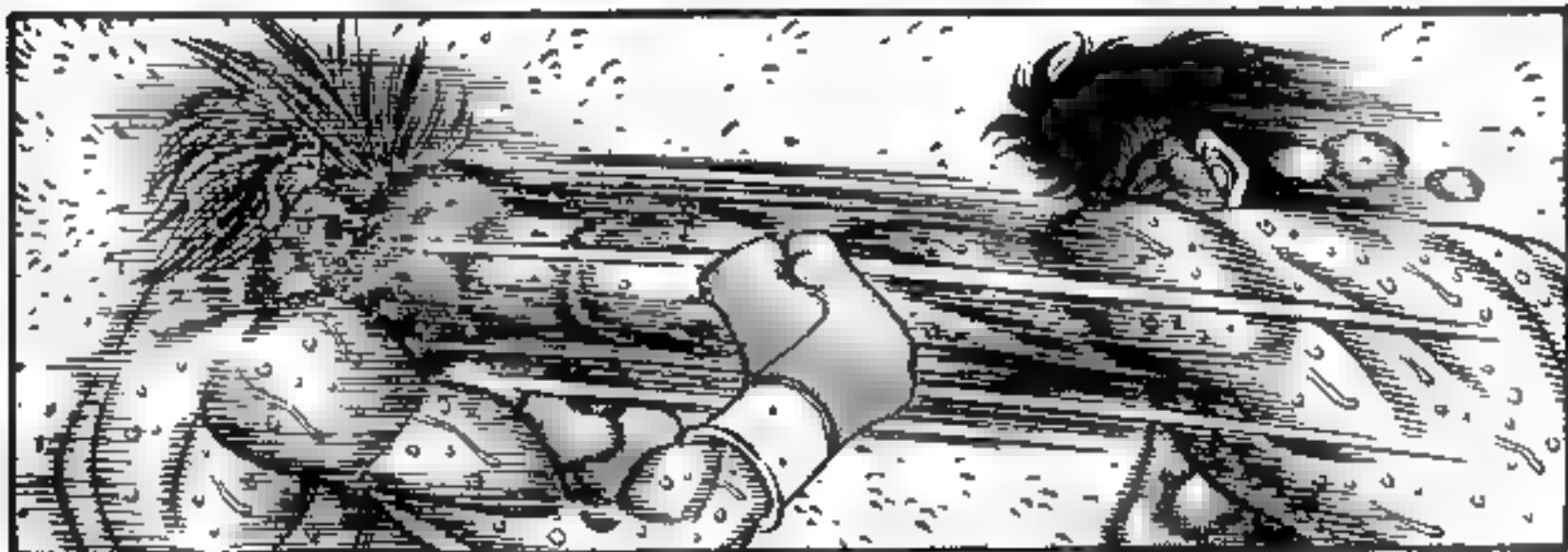
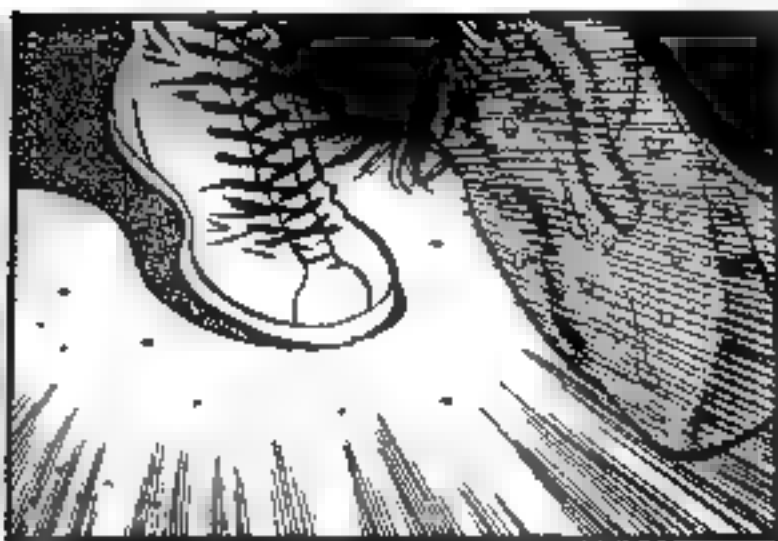
I
DON'T
NEED
THE
BELT!
IF YOU
DON'T
COME
BACK
IN ONE
PIECE,



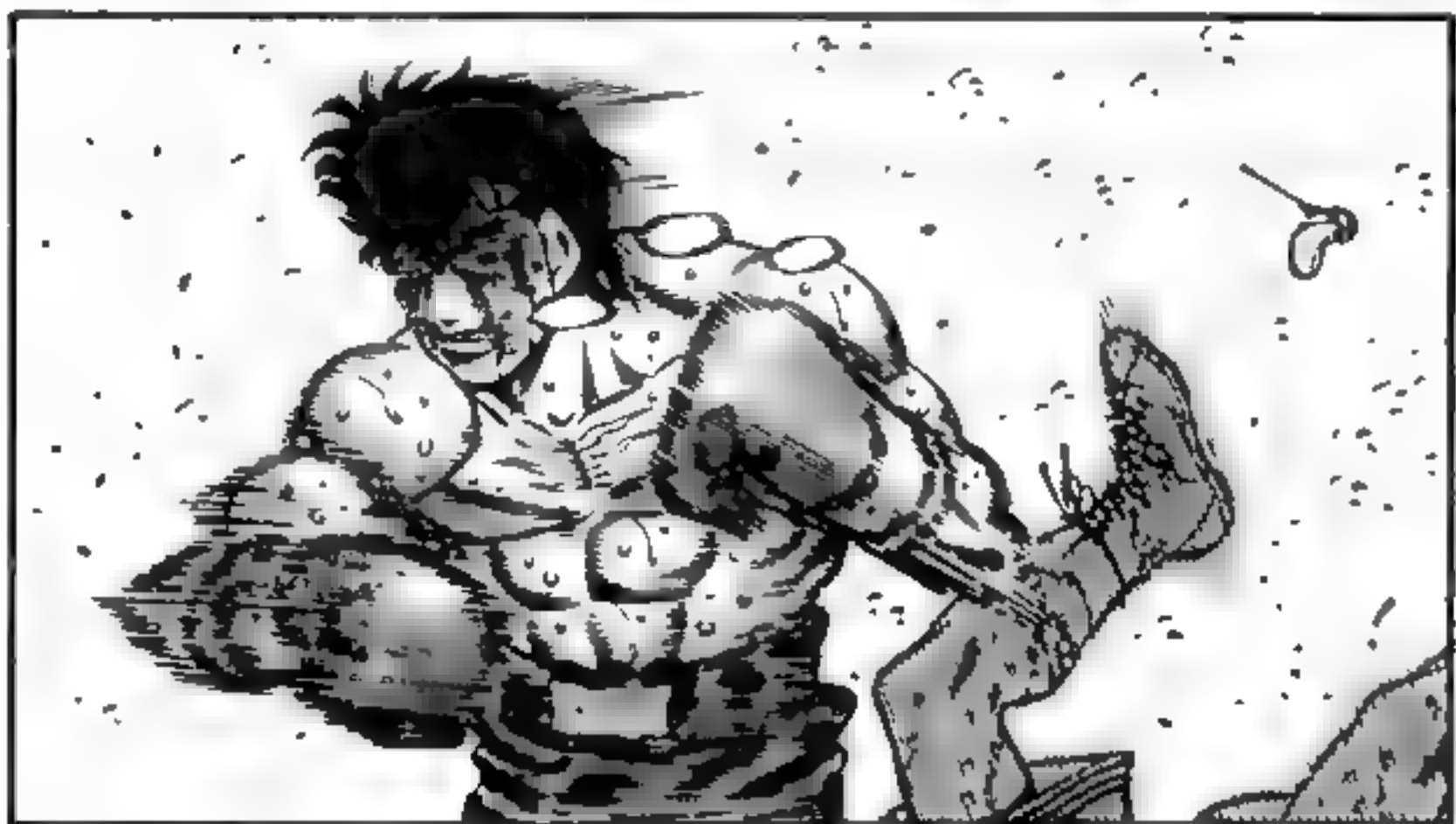
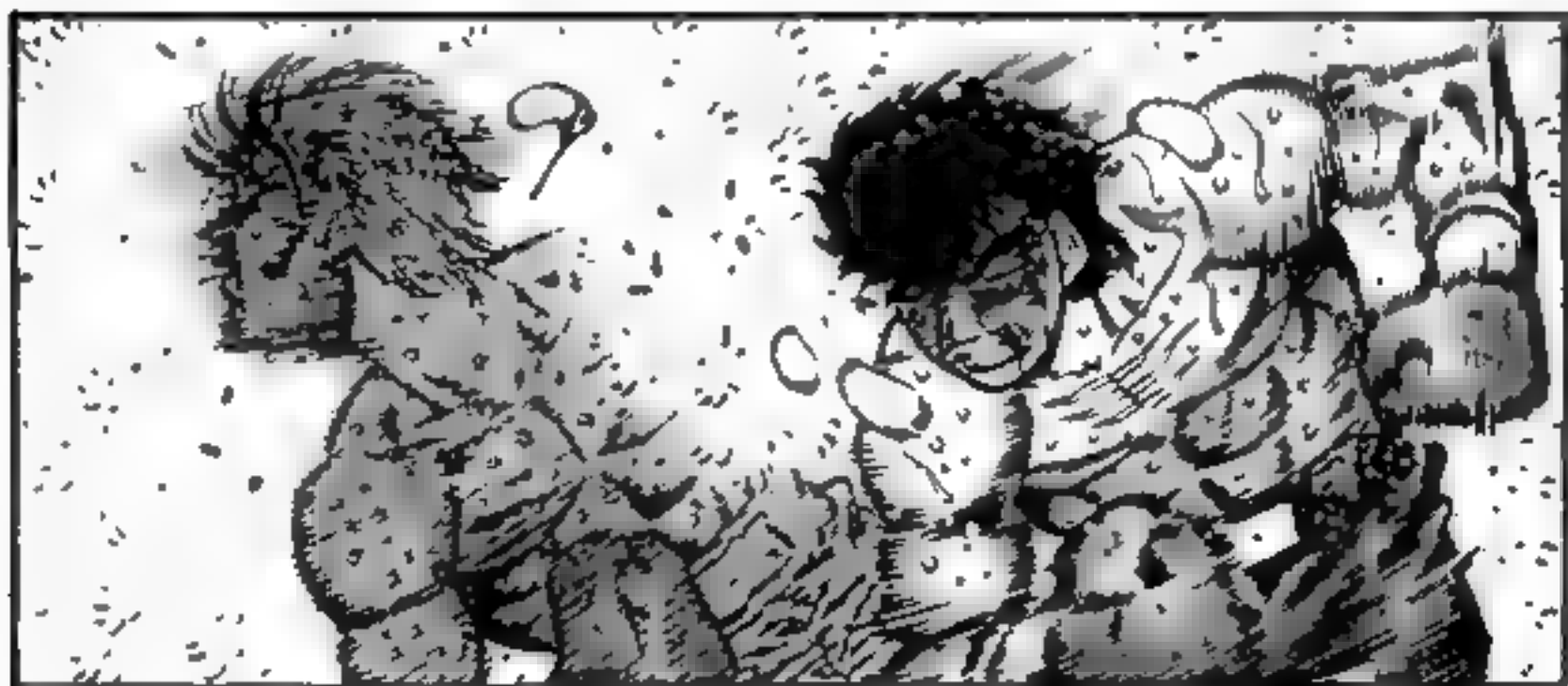
I GOTTA
PRACTICE
TO DO



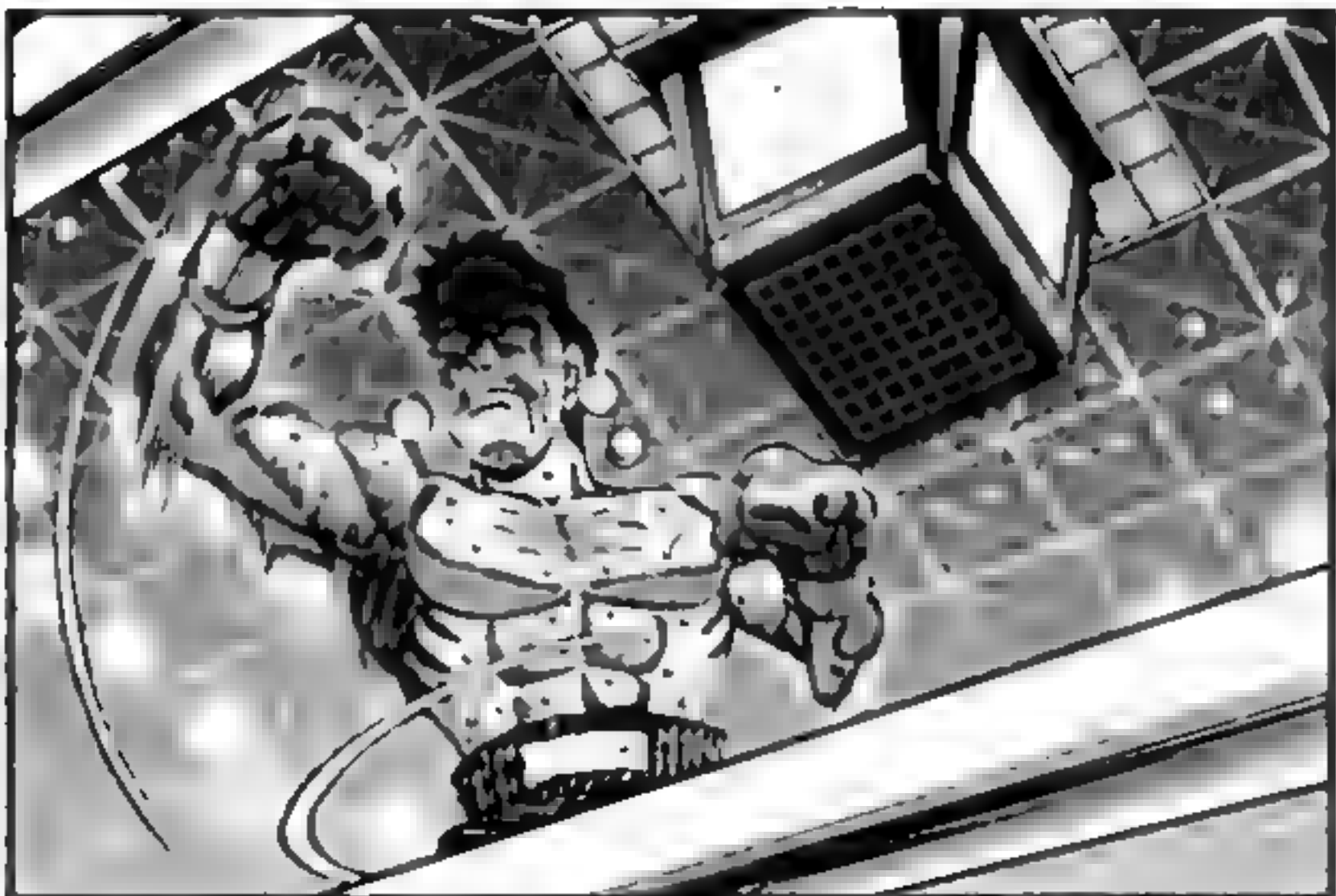
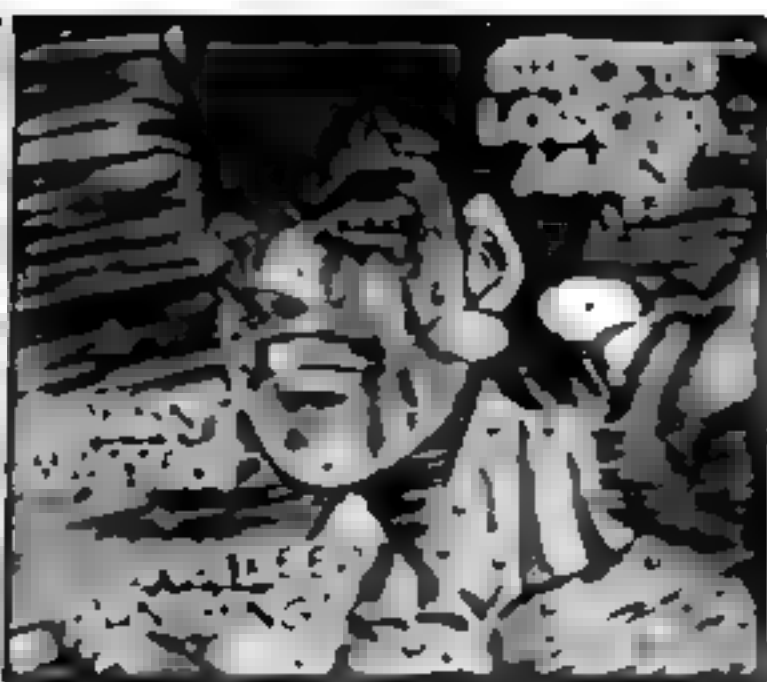






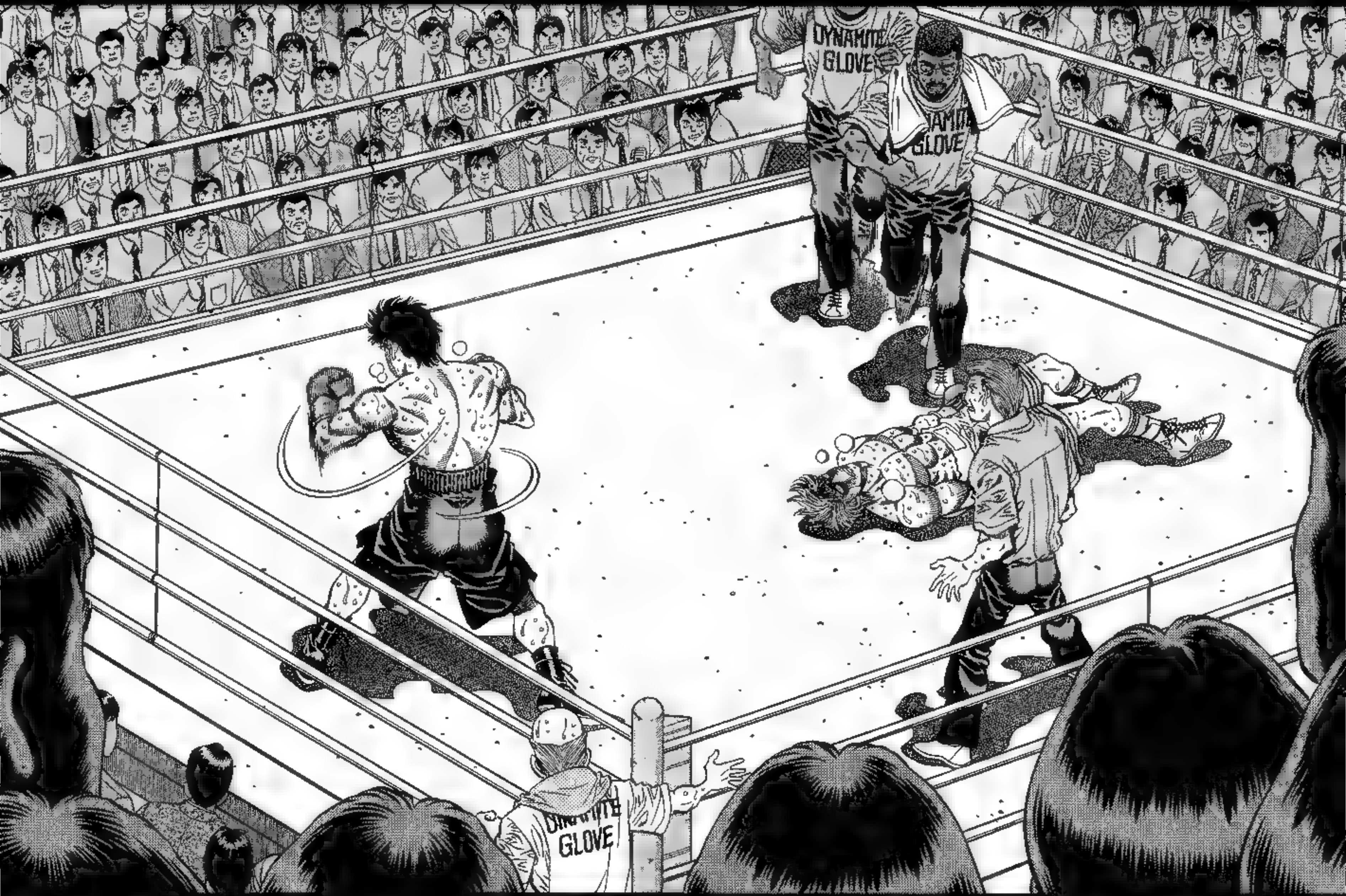


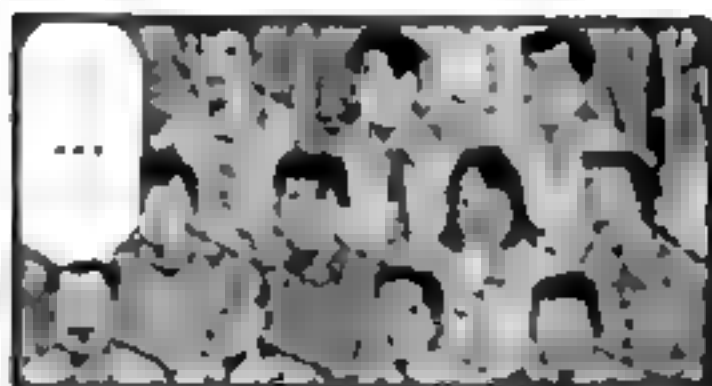
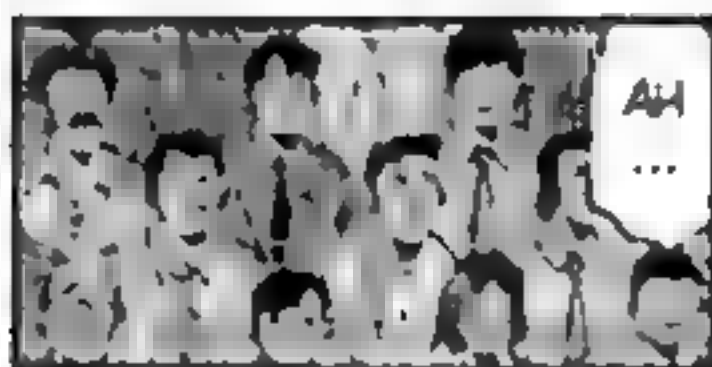
I CAN'T
STOP
SWING-
ING!!

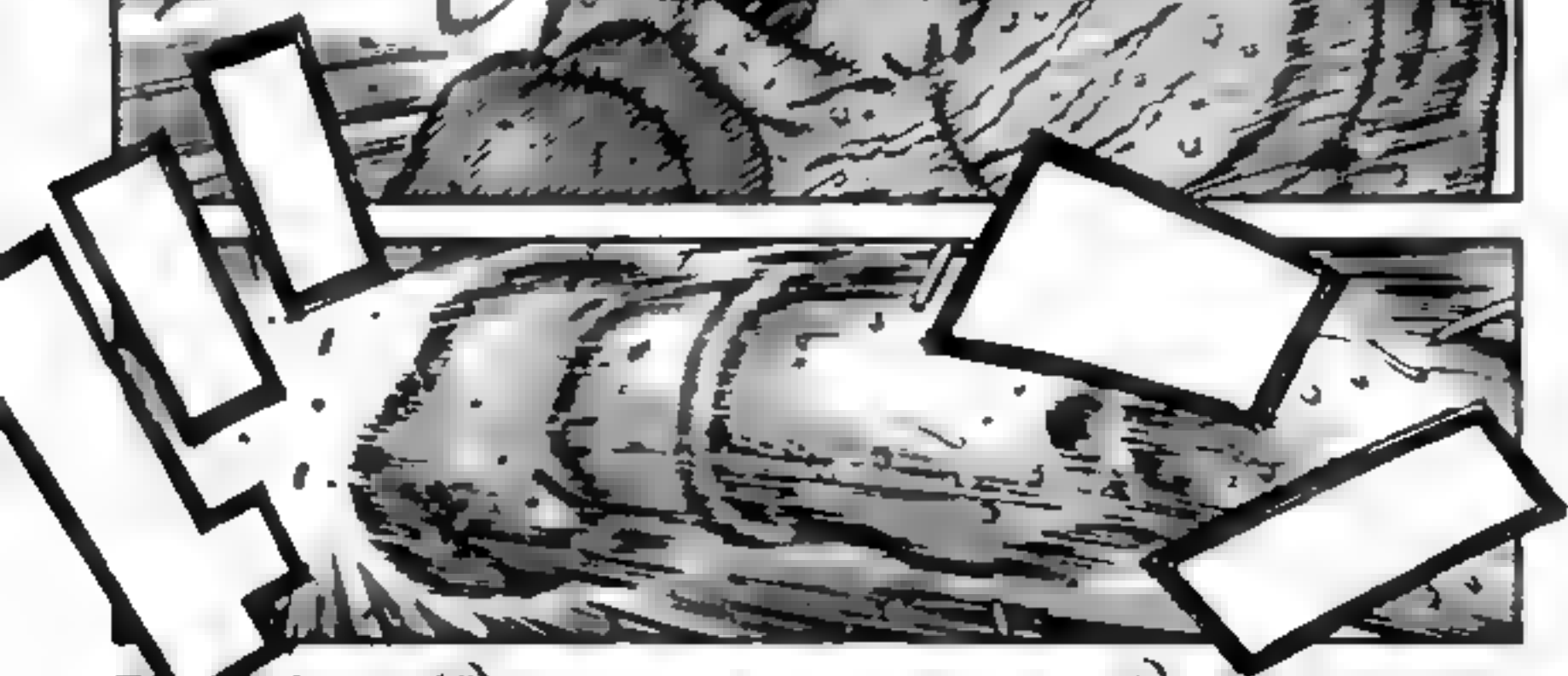


I CAN'T SEE
ANYTHING
ANYMORE

FUCK
I CAN'T
SEE!















THE ONE TO
KNOCK THE
GOLDEN EAGLE
DOWN TO EARTH
FROM THE TOP OF
THE WORLD WAS
THE JAPANESE
HAWK!!

A NEW
CHAMPION
IS BORN
!!

TAKAMURA
MAKURU
HAS SURVIVED
THE BATTLE
AND ASCENDS
UP TO THE
MIDDLEWEIGHT
THRONE!!



THE
SECOND
WEIGHT
CLASS
CONQUEST
IS NOW
COMPLETE
!!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

AND A
STANDING
OVATION
ERUPTS
NOW!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

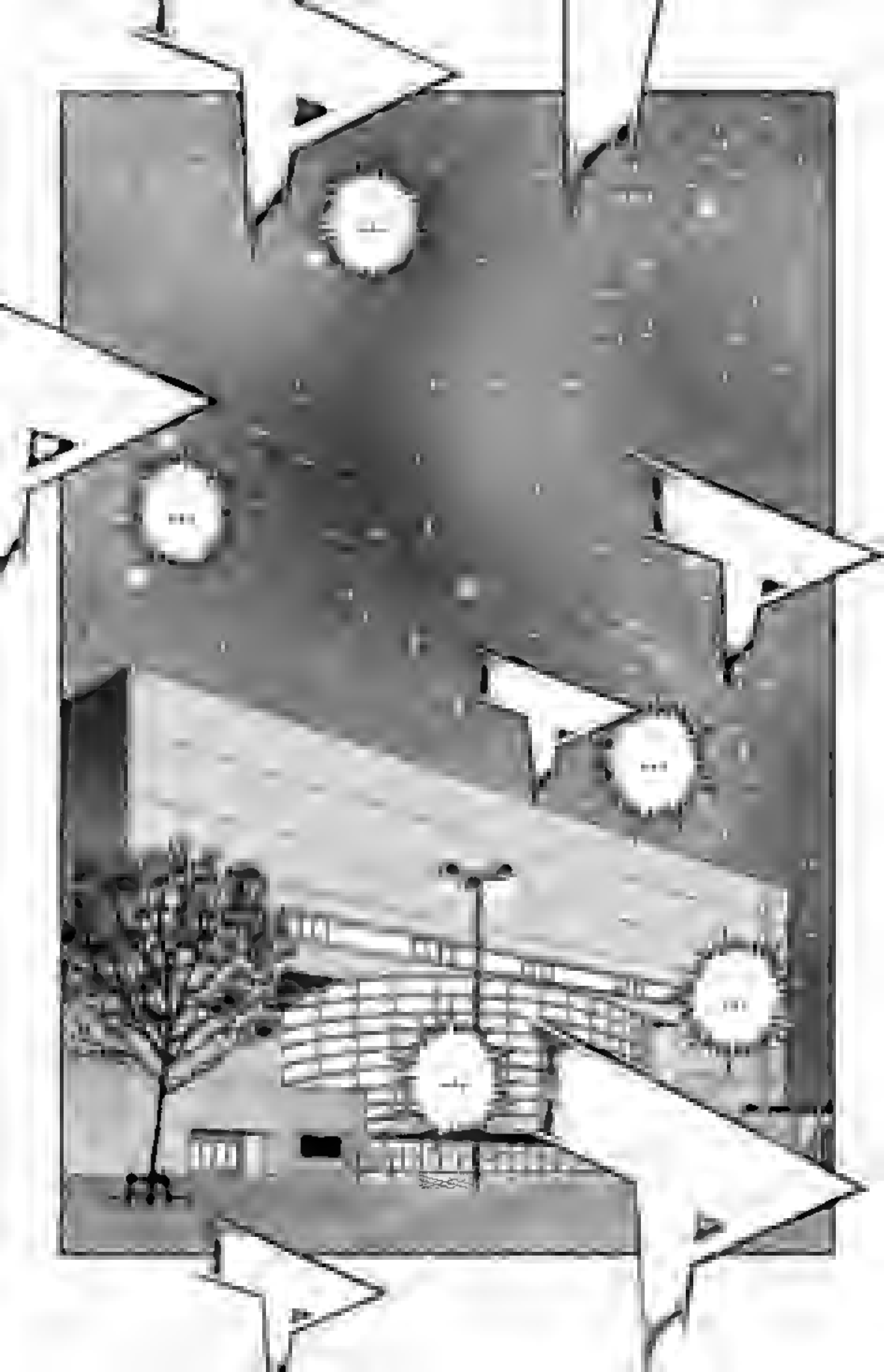
TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

HE'S
CONGRAT-
ULATED
WITH EX-
PLOSIVE
CHEERS
!!

IT'S A
THUN-
DEROUS
TAKA-
MURA
CALL!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!



はじめての対決

THE FIGHTING!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

THE
TAKAMURA
CHANT
SHOWS NO
SIGNS OF
ENDING!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

DOES HE
NOT REALIZE
IT JUST YET!?
THE NEW
CHAMP STANDS
AND STARES
UPWARDS IN
A DAZE!!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

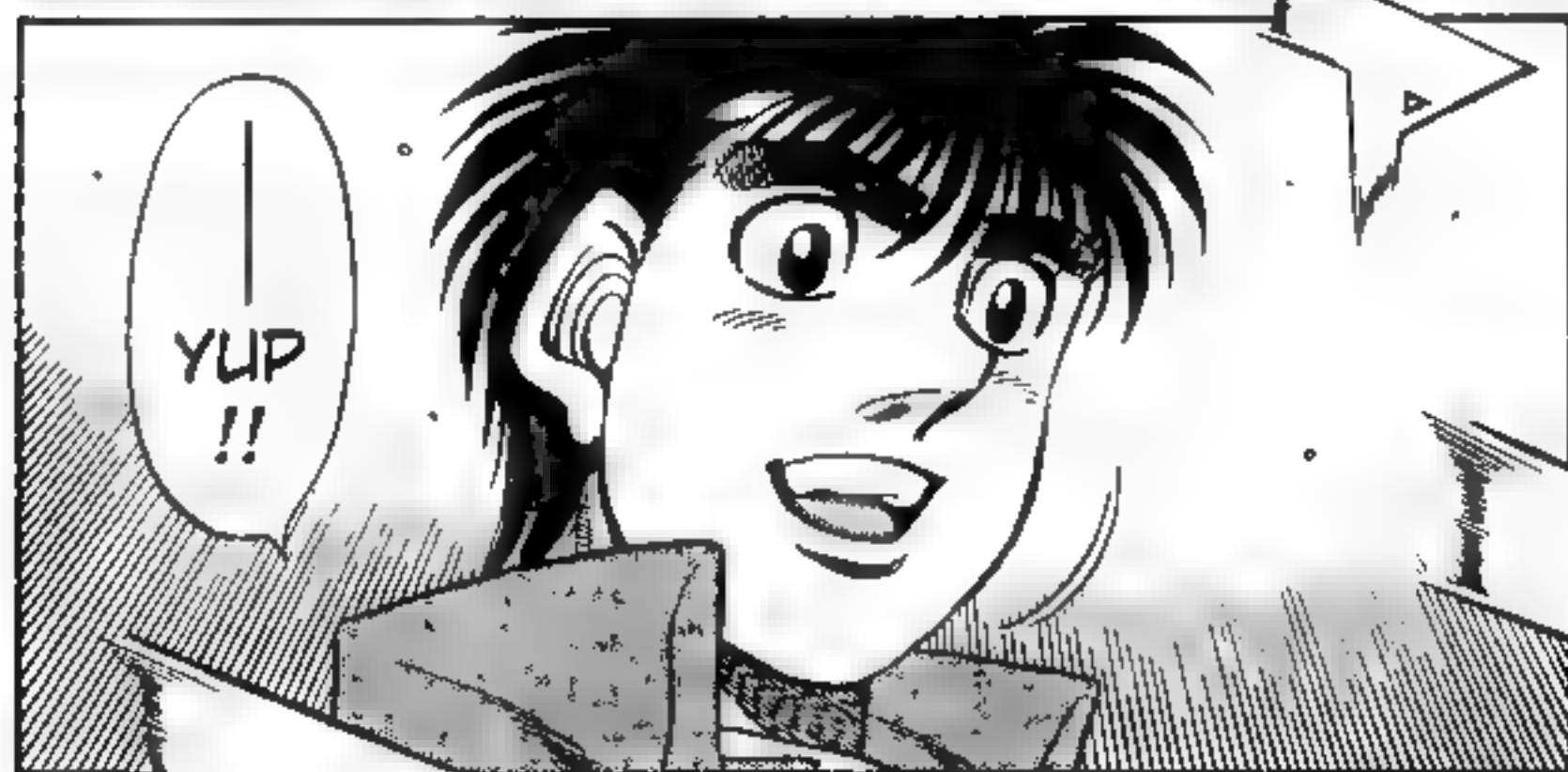
TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!

TAKA-
MURA!
TAKA-
MURA!









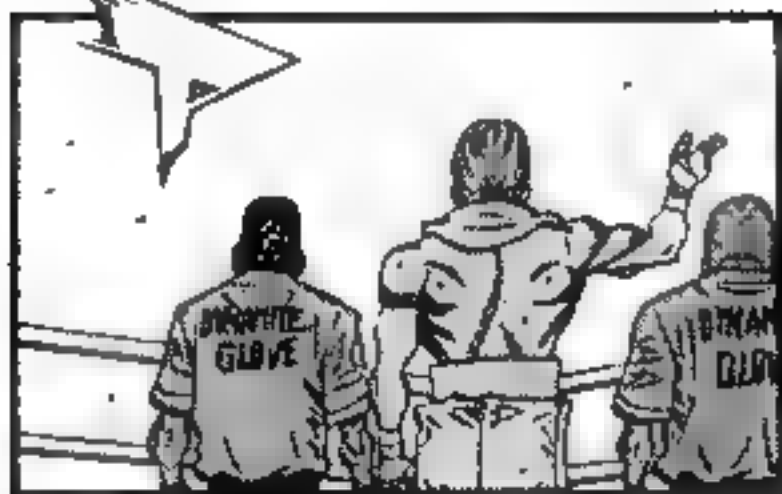


THAT
WAS A
SWEET
FIGHT!

YOU WERE
AMAZINGLY
STRONG,
EAGLE!

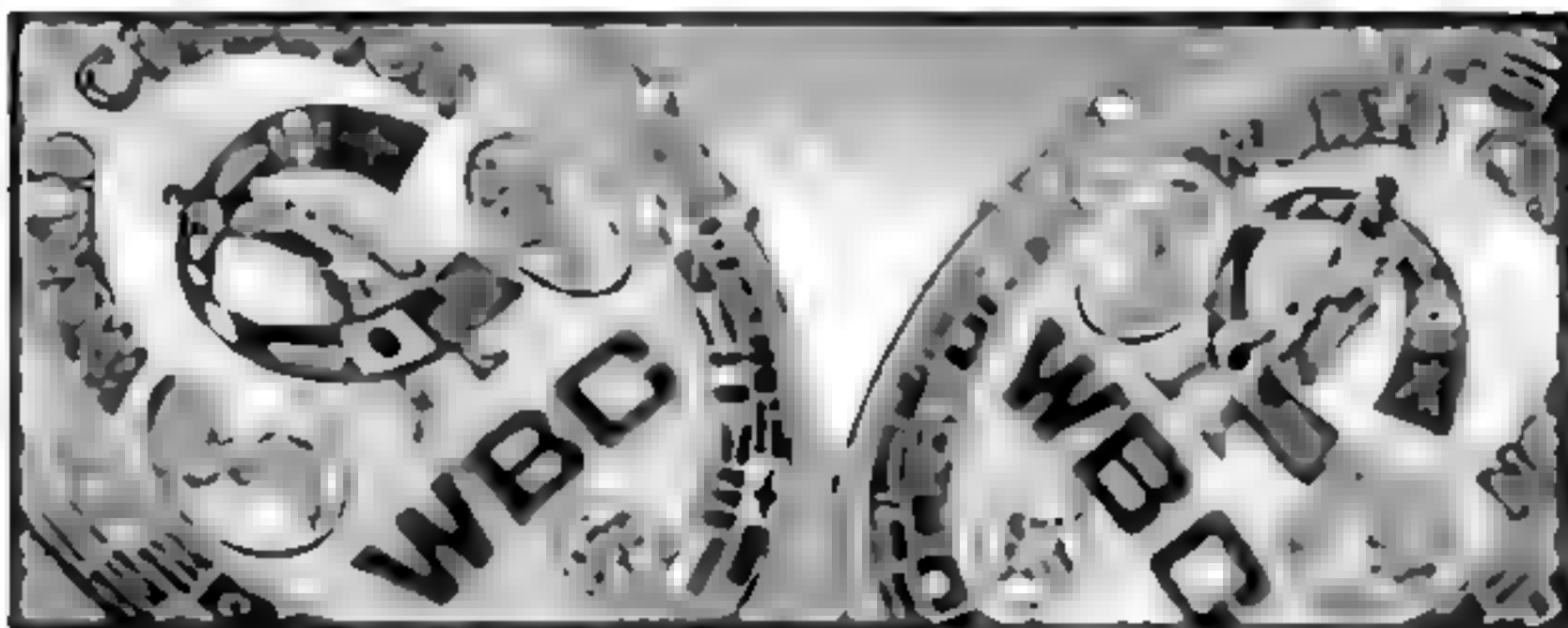
COME
BACK TO
JAPAN
SOMETIME!

NEXT TIME,
WE'LL CHEER
FOR YOU!



Great
experience



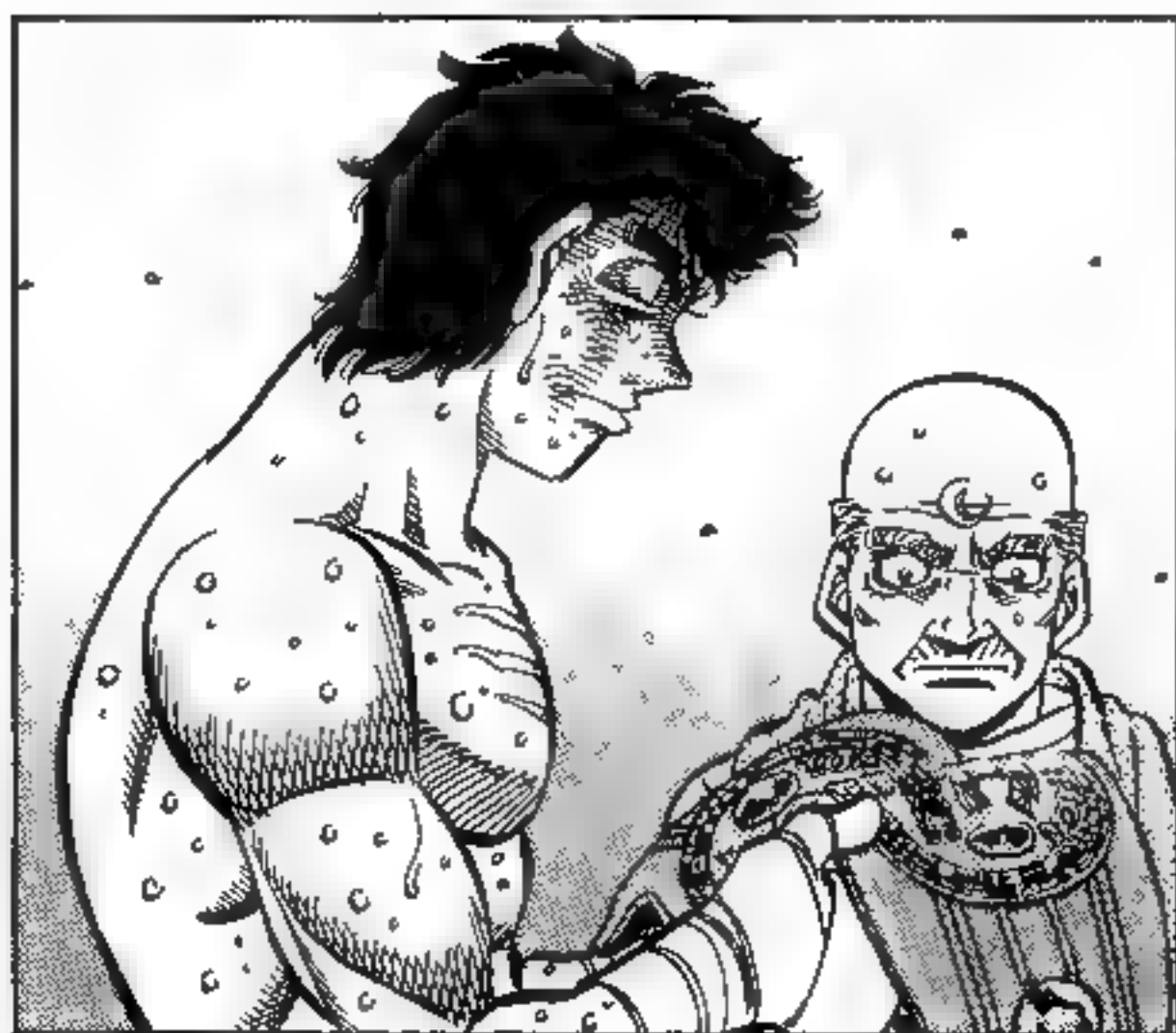




HELL
YEAHHH
HHH!!



はじめての一步





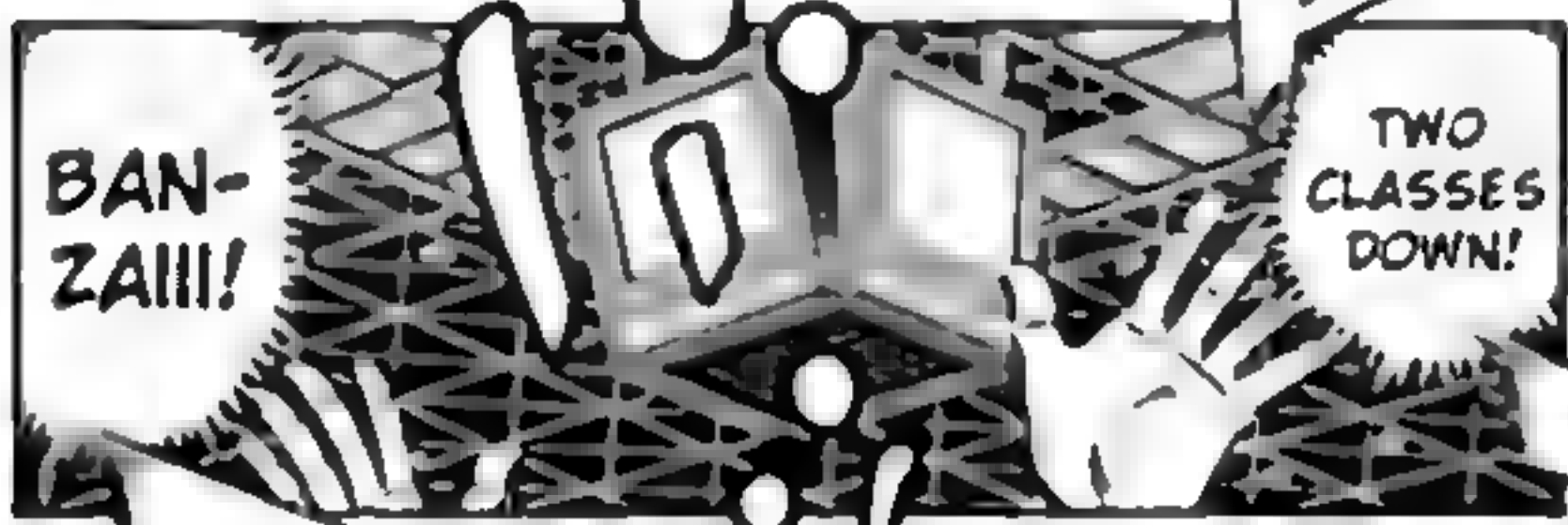
HELL
YEAHHH
HHH!!

はじめの一歩
THE FIGHTING!



U-
LWA
...

Round 557 World's Greatest Surrogate Son



BAN-
ZAI!!
BAN-
ZAI!!

BAN-
ZAI!!
BAN-
ZAI!!

BAN-
ZAI!!
BAN-
ZAI!!

ONHARU SAYS: "IF IT WASN'T OBVIOUS BANZAI IS A CELEBRATORY CHEER"

HE ALWAYS
REMINDS
ME AND
SHOWS ME

I STILL DON'T
KNOW WHAT
TAKAMURA-SAN'S
FIGHTING FOR,

...BUT

I WANT
TO BE
DOWN
THERE...

AWW,
I CAN'T
GET ANY
FURTHER
THAN
THIS.

JUST HOW
DIFFICULT
FIGHTING
CAN BE
AND THE
IMPORTANCE
OF HARD
WORK.

I
UNDER-
STAND
IT.



EVEN IF
TAKAMURA
-SAN
COULDN'T
SEE, AND
LOST HIS
TARGET,

BAN-
ZAI!!
BAN-
ZAI!!



BAN-
ZAI!!

BAN-
ZAI!!

BAN-
ZAI!!
BAN-
ZAI!!

HE COULD
STILL SEE
THE COACH'S
MITTS AND
PUNCHED
THEM, JUST
LIKE HE'S
PRACTICED!

ALSO HIS
INCREDIBLE
AMOUNT OF
TRAINING'S
WHAT MADE
THIS WIN
POSSIBLE



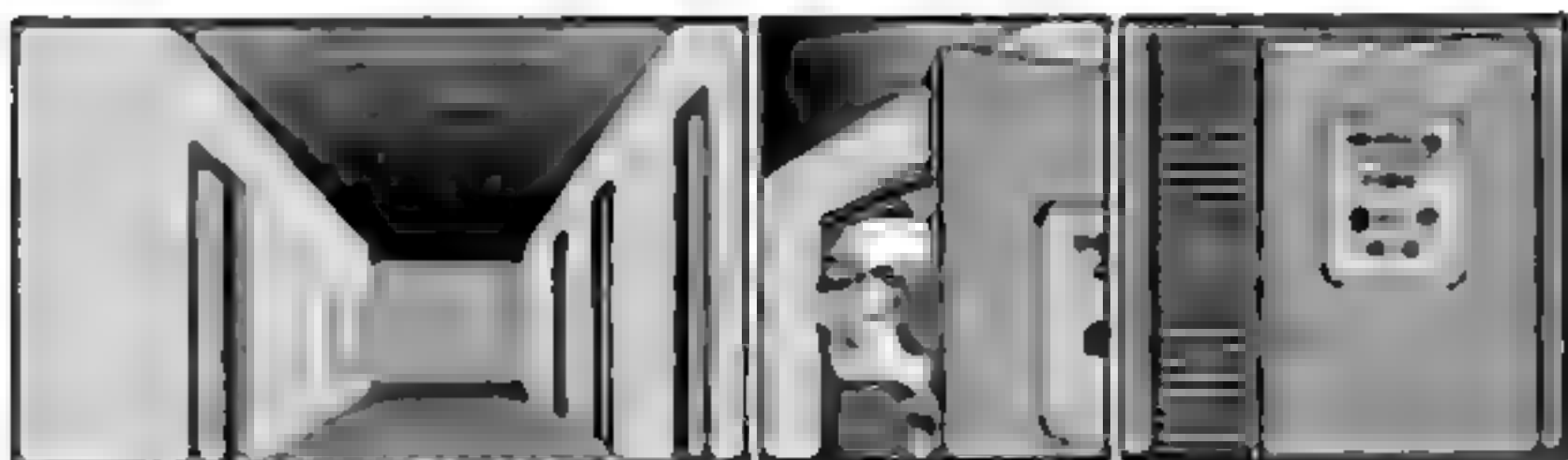
HAVING
COMPLETE
FAITH IN
THE COACH

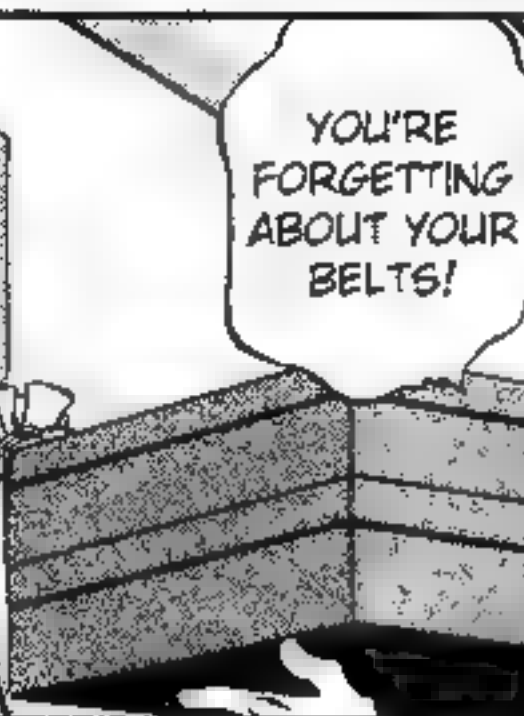
AND...

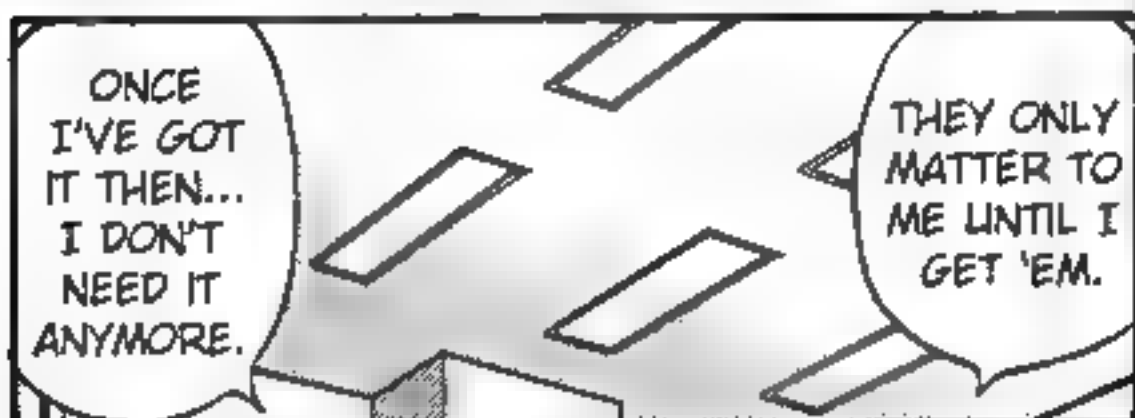


BAN
ZAI!

TAKA
MURA
-SAN
!!







ONCE I'VE GOT IT THEN... I DON'T NEED IT ANYMORE.

THEY ONLY MATTER TO ME UNTIL I GET 'EM.



PUT THESE BAD BOYS UNDER YOUR PILLOW WHEN YOU GO TO BED TONIGHT.

LIKE I PROMISED, HERE YOU GO, OLD MAN.



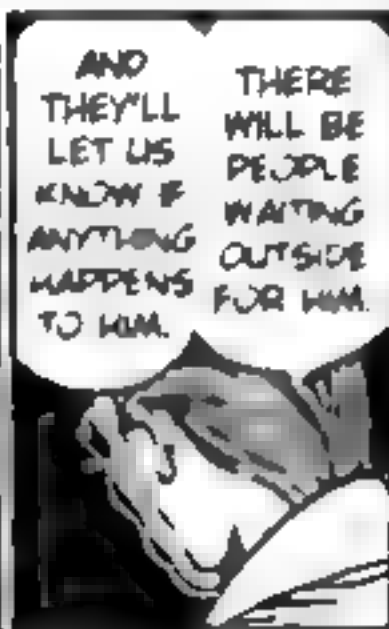
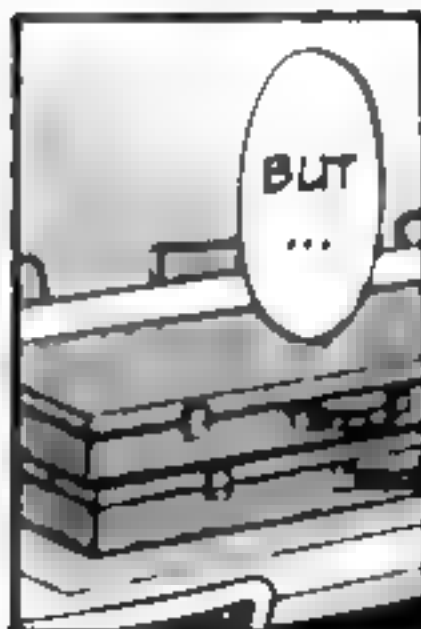
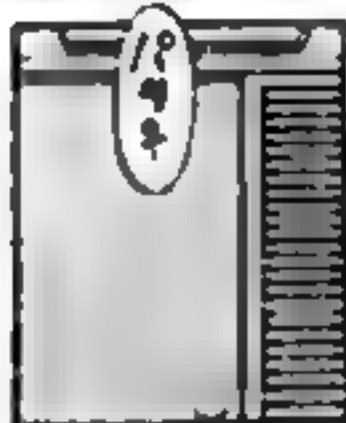
MAKE A HAPPY FACE THEN.

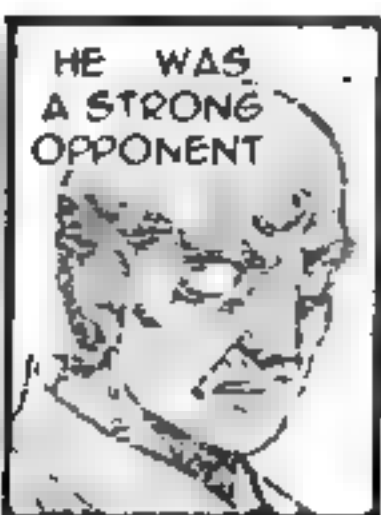
YOU HAPPY, HUH?

AREN'T YOU HAPPY ABOUT IT!?



I JUST HAD A LITTLE BIT OF A HARD TIME.







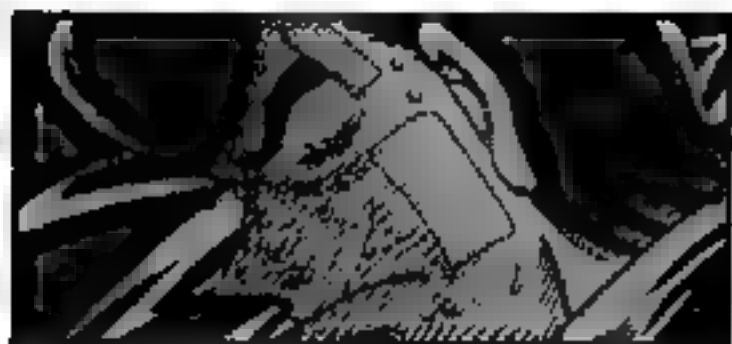
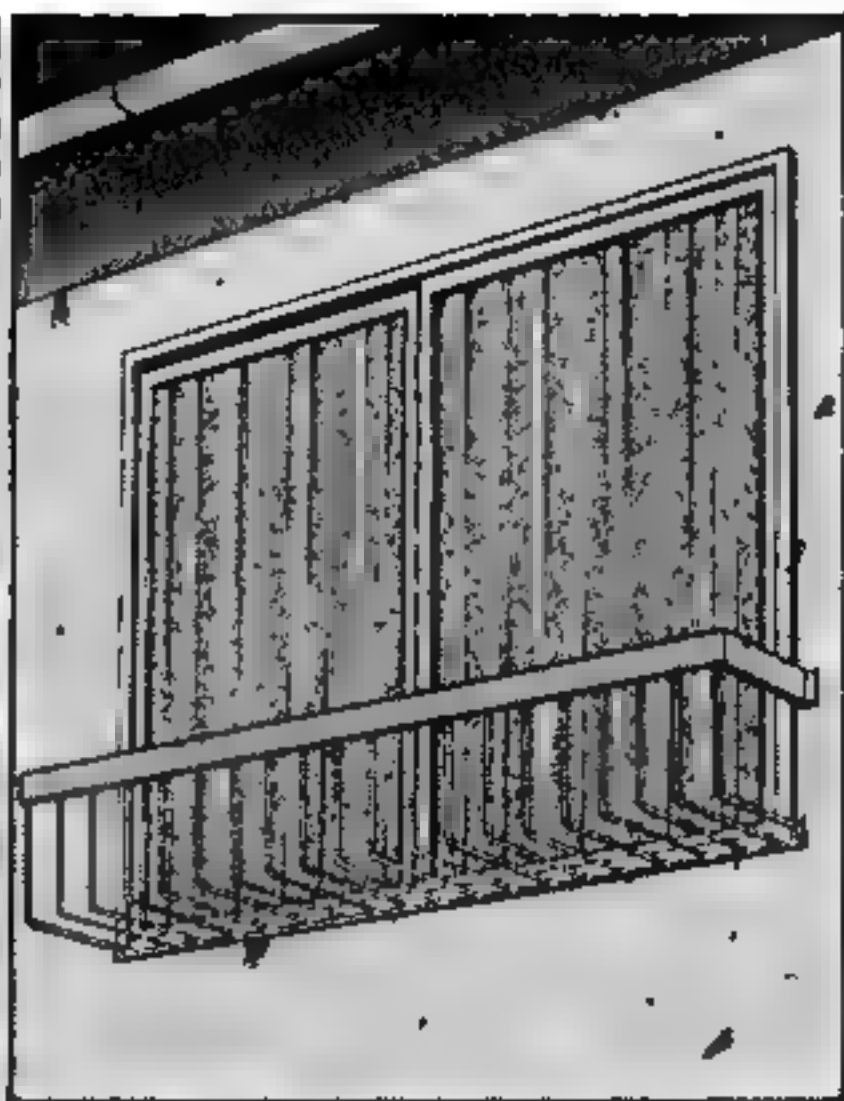
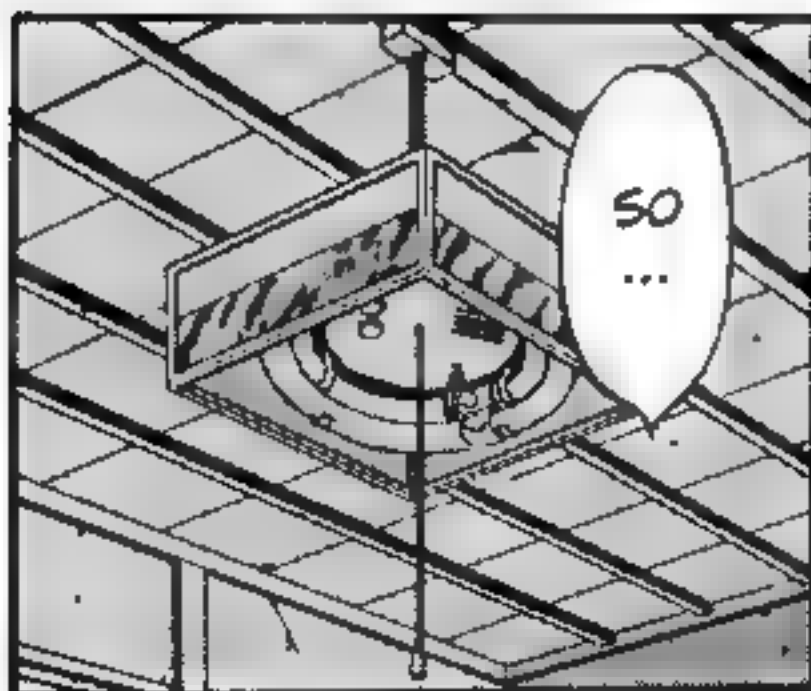














はじめての一步

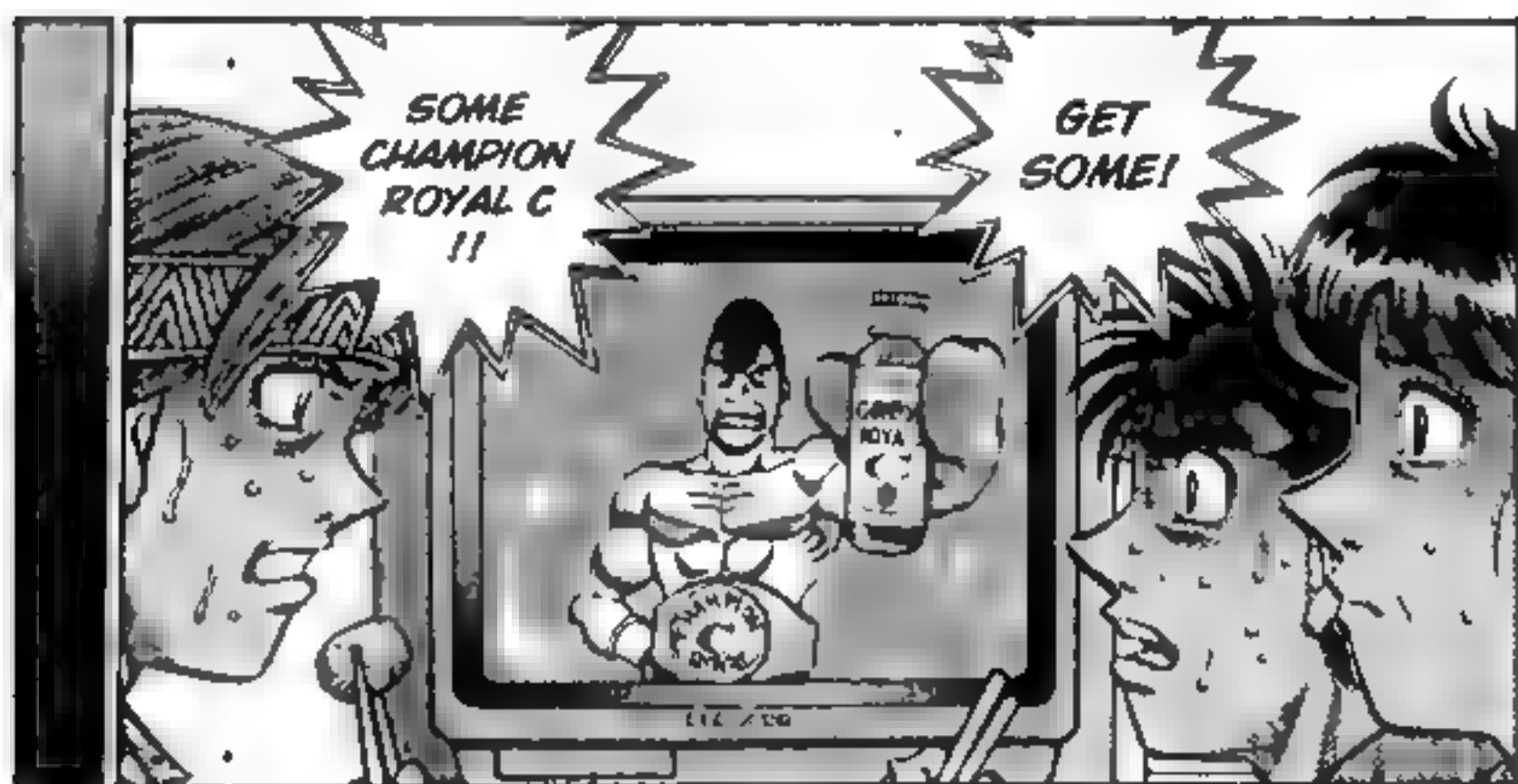




はじめての THE FIGHTING! 一歩

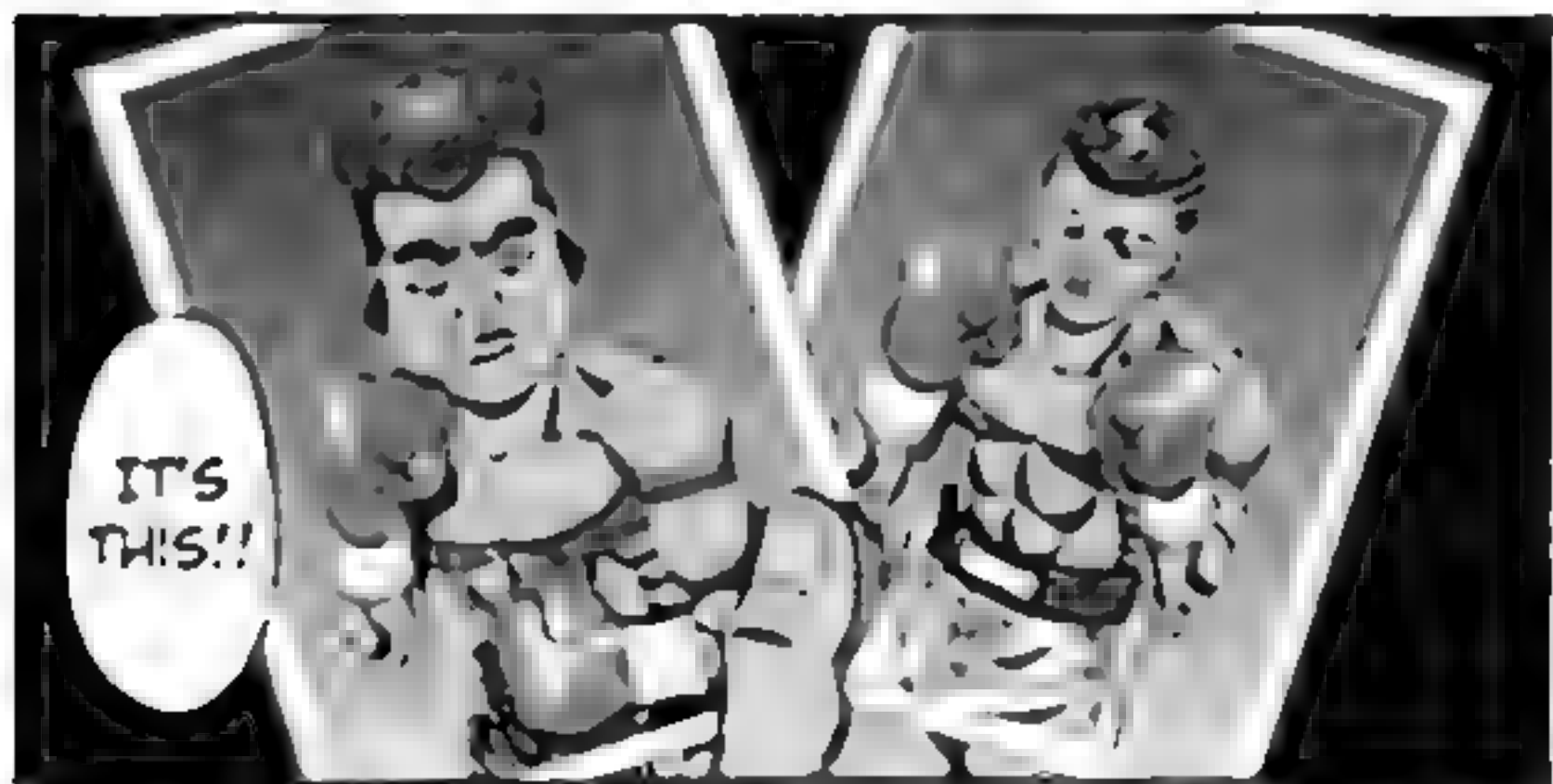


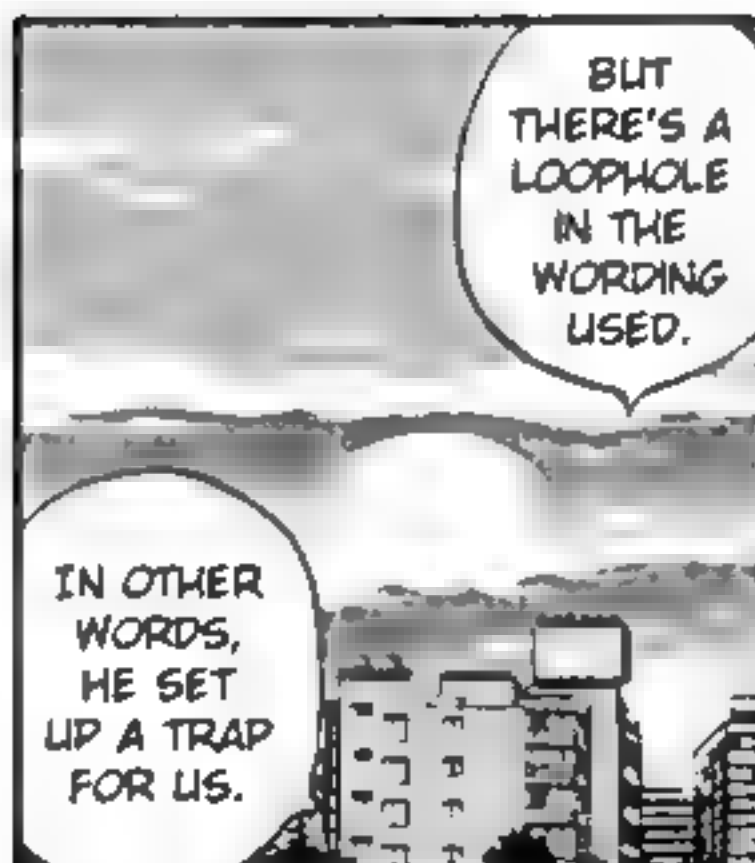
Round 558 A Star is Born











BUT
THERE'S A
LOOPHOLE
IN THE
WORDING
USED.

IN OTHER
WORDS,
HE SET
UP A TRAP
FOR US.



THEY
ALSO
DIDN'T
WIN...

THEY
DIDN'T
LOSE
BUT...



I HOPED
IT'D BE
OK SINCE
WE DIDN'T
LOSE,

EX-
ACT-
LY!



AND I DID
MY VERY BEST
AGAINST HIM!
WHY THE HELL
SHOULD I HAVE
TO BE MADE A
FOOL OF?!

NO WAY!!
THOSE
GUYS WE
FOUGHT
WERE
REALLY
TOUGH!



WANT ME
TO JUST
SHUT UP
AND
BECOME
PAPAYA?

THEN TH-
YOU ...



THE MORE WE
RESIST HIM,
THE MORE FUN
HE'LL END UP
HAVING.

THINK
THAT YOUR
EXCUSE
WILL WORK
ON TAKA-
MURA-
SAN?



WHAT
ELSE
ARE YOU
GONNA
DO?

...









MM
MMM

I'LL
LEND A
HAND.



HE'S CON-
VENIENTLY
PASSED OUT,
SO LET'S DO
HIM NOW.

AS
FOR THE
OTHER
ONE...



I HOPE
I NEVER
BECOME
THAT KIND
OF SHADY
OPPOR-
TUNIST.

HE'S
SWITCHED
SIDES.



I'VE GOT
A PICTURE,
SO IT'LL BE
A PIECE
OF CAKE.

W-WAIT...
ARE YOU
REALLY
GOING TO
DO THIS,
TAKAMURA-
SAN?



THEY'VE
GOT NO
MERCY.

TH-
THEY'VE
STARTED.



THIS IS
HARDER
THAN IT
LOOKS.

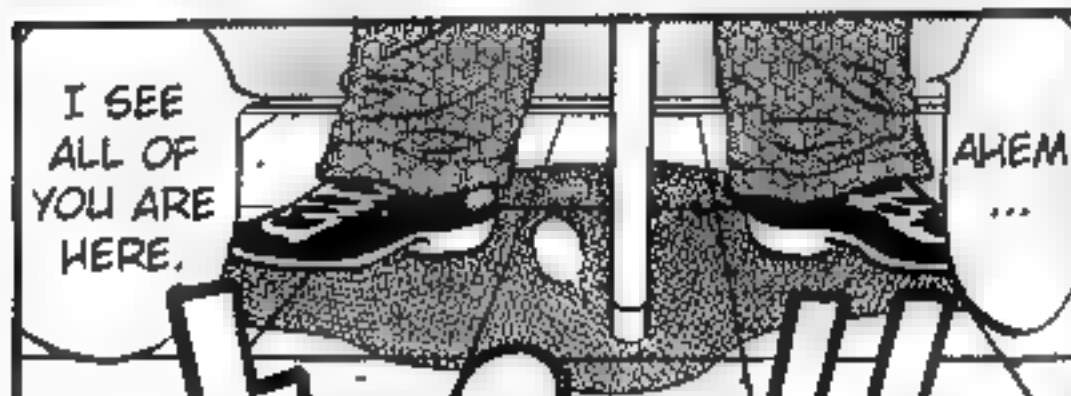
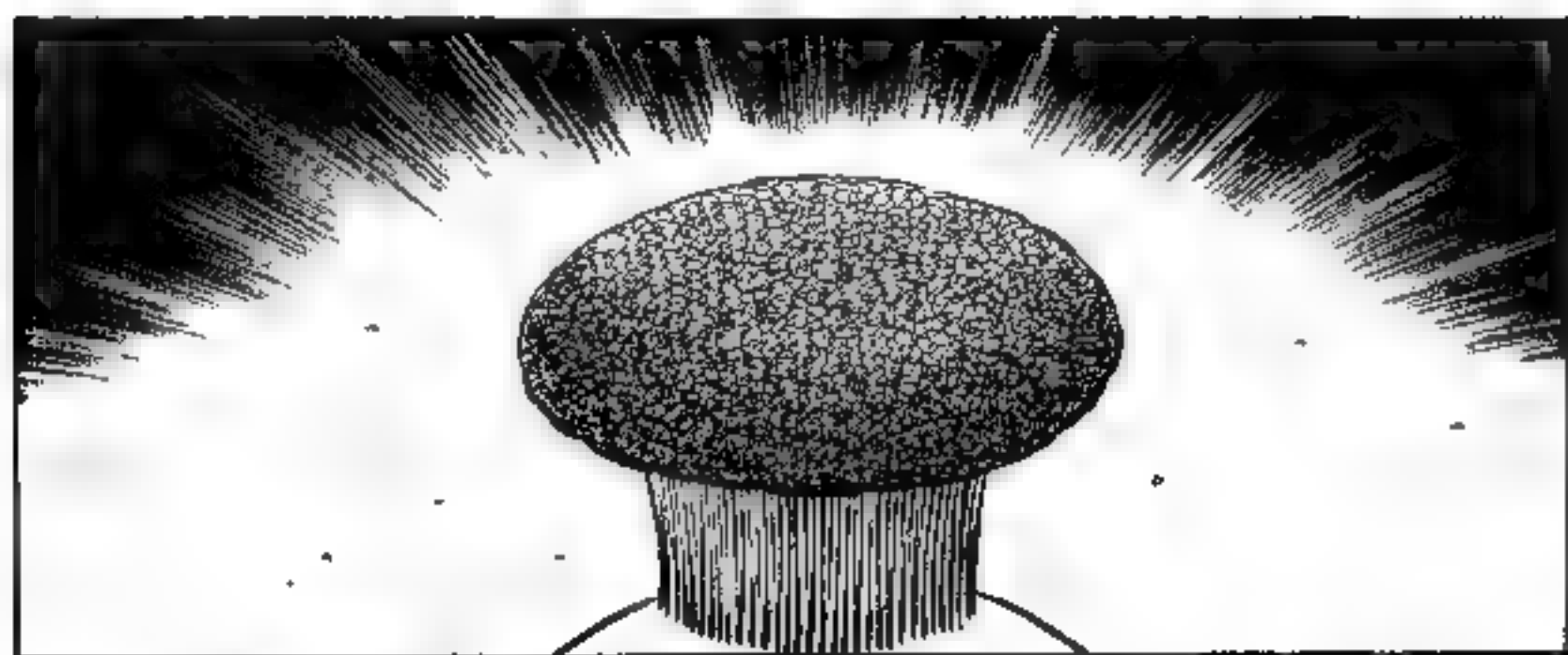
HM
...

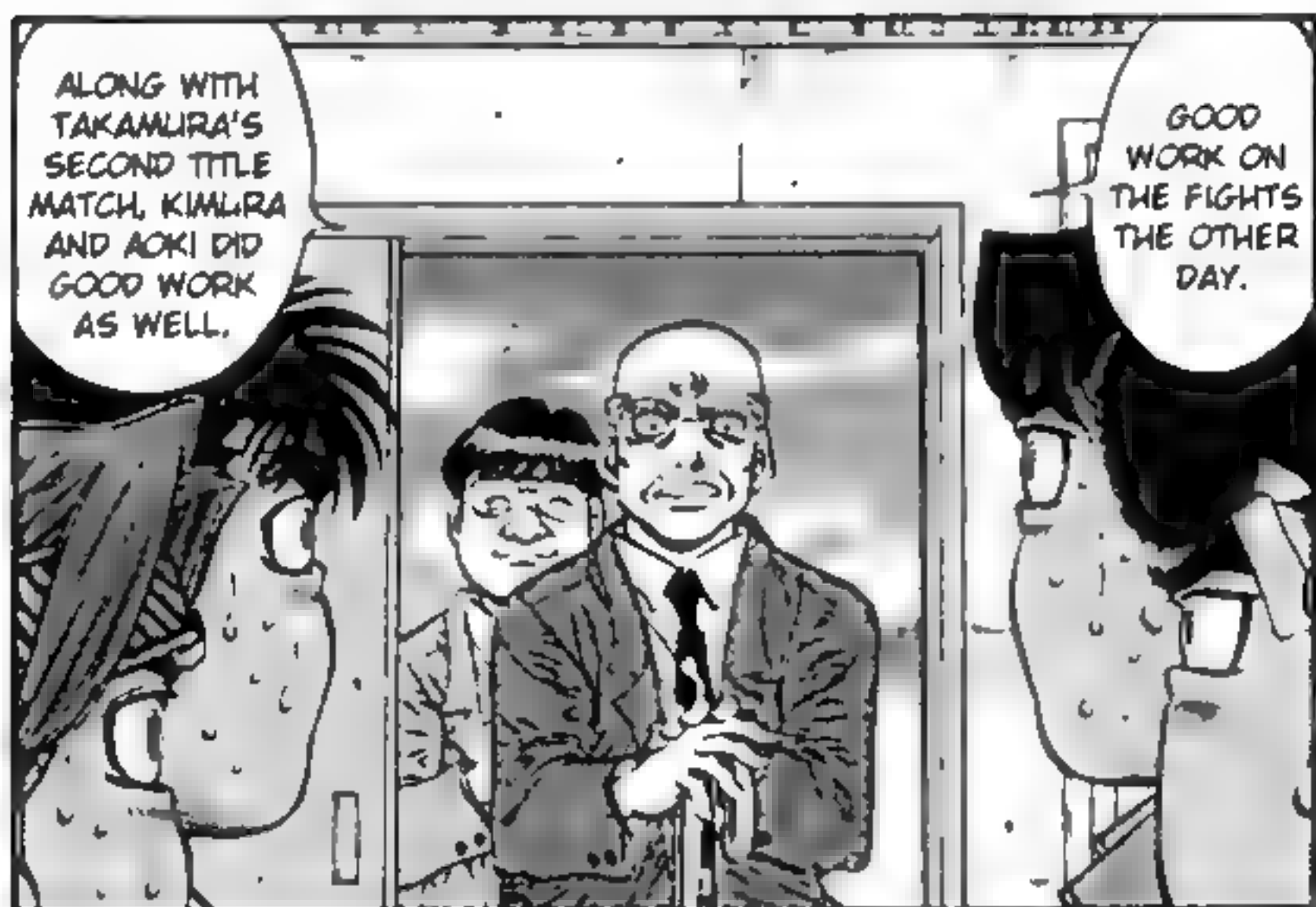


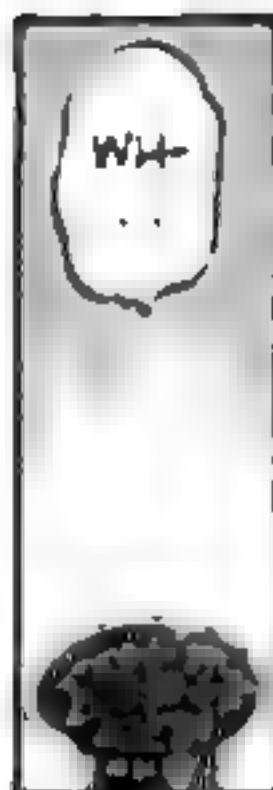
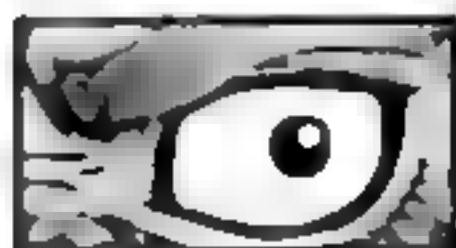
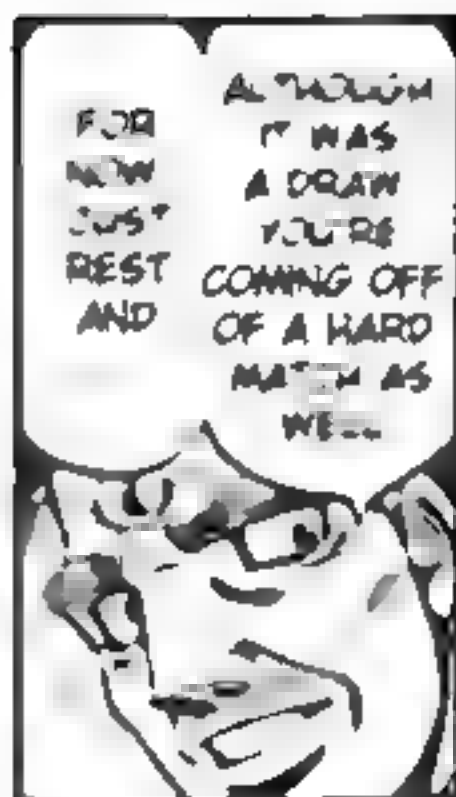
JUST
SNIP A
BIT OFF
HERE.



PLAR SAYS, "IT LOOKS LIKE AOKI WAS B.TORK HAIR RIGHT THERE" 17









WHAT
THE
FUCK!?



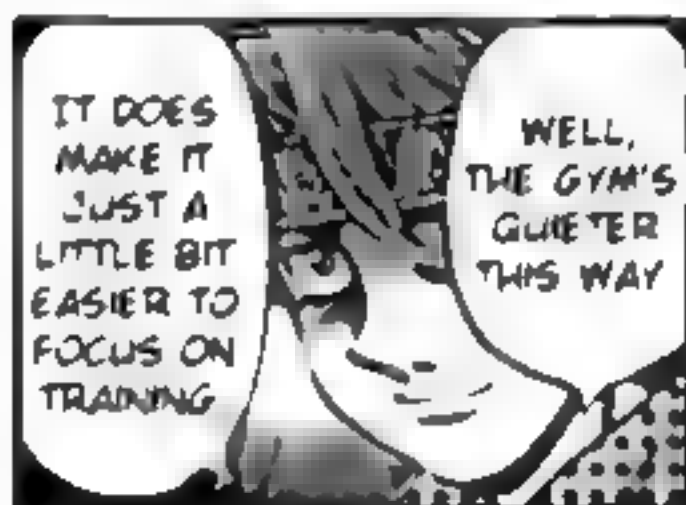
LIKE HELL
I WILL!

WHAT
THE HELL
HAPPENED
TO MY
HEAD!?

AOKI-SAN,
PLEASE
CALM
DOWN!

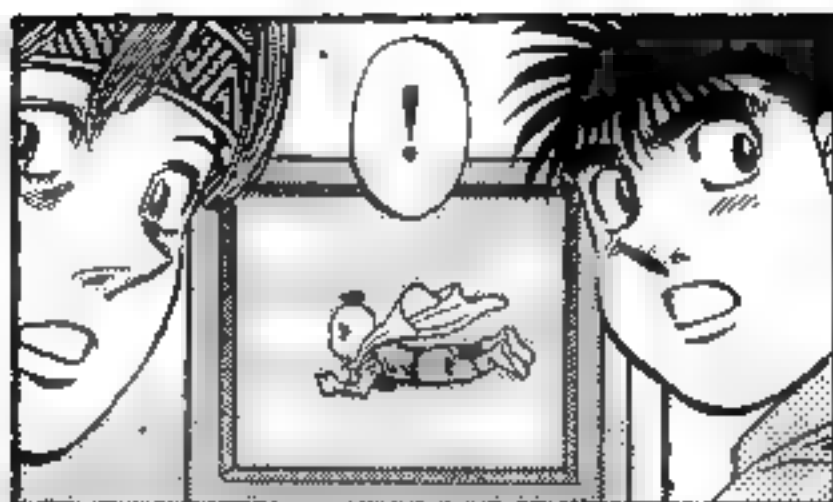
...











あはは

IT'S AS
NUTRITIOUS
AS IT GETS!
OUR ENTIRE
HOUSEHOLD
ALWAYS EATS
BRUCCO!!

HAVE
BRUCCO
WITH
EVERY
MEAL!!



LOOK
FOR THE
BRUCCO-
MAN
LOGO!

WHEN
YOU'RE
LOOKING
FOR BRUC-
CO!!



!-
IT SUITS
HIM!

W-WELL,
AT LEAST
HE GOT
WHAT HE
WANTED...

I WONDER
JUST HOW
THEY
WILL GO!



はじめての一步





はじめての THE FIGHTING! FIGHT



Round 559 *Itagaki's Resolve*



~~~~~GHI  
~~~~~

2 MIN-
UTES AND
57 SEC-
ONDS!!



ZE ZE
| |
HH HH

ZE ZE
| |
HH HH

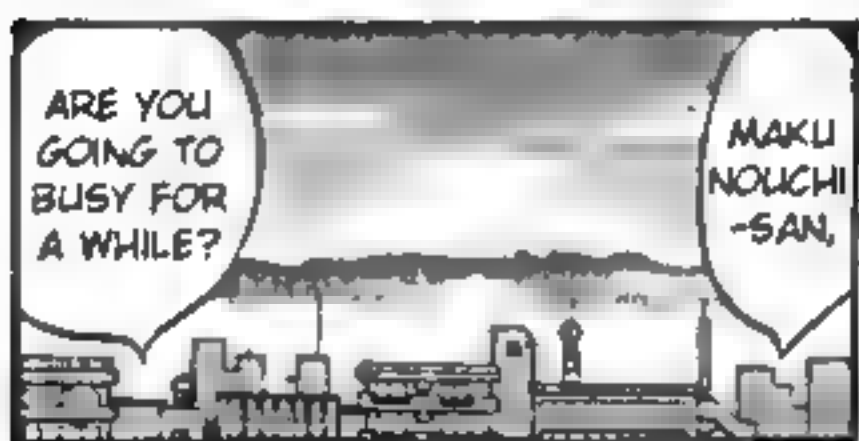
AMAZING!
YOU BEAT
MAKINOUCI-
CHI-SAN,
ITAGAKI-
KUN.



SINCE YOU
DON'T HAVE
A MATCH
COMING UP
AT ALL.

MAYBE
YOU'RE
JUST NOT
GETTING
INTO IT,

THAT WAS THE
EIGHTH LAP...
IT'S HARD TO
BELIEVE THAT
YOU'RE ONLY A
4-ROUNDER.



ARE YOU
GOING TO
BUSY FOR
A WHILE?

MAKU
NOUCHI-
SAN,

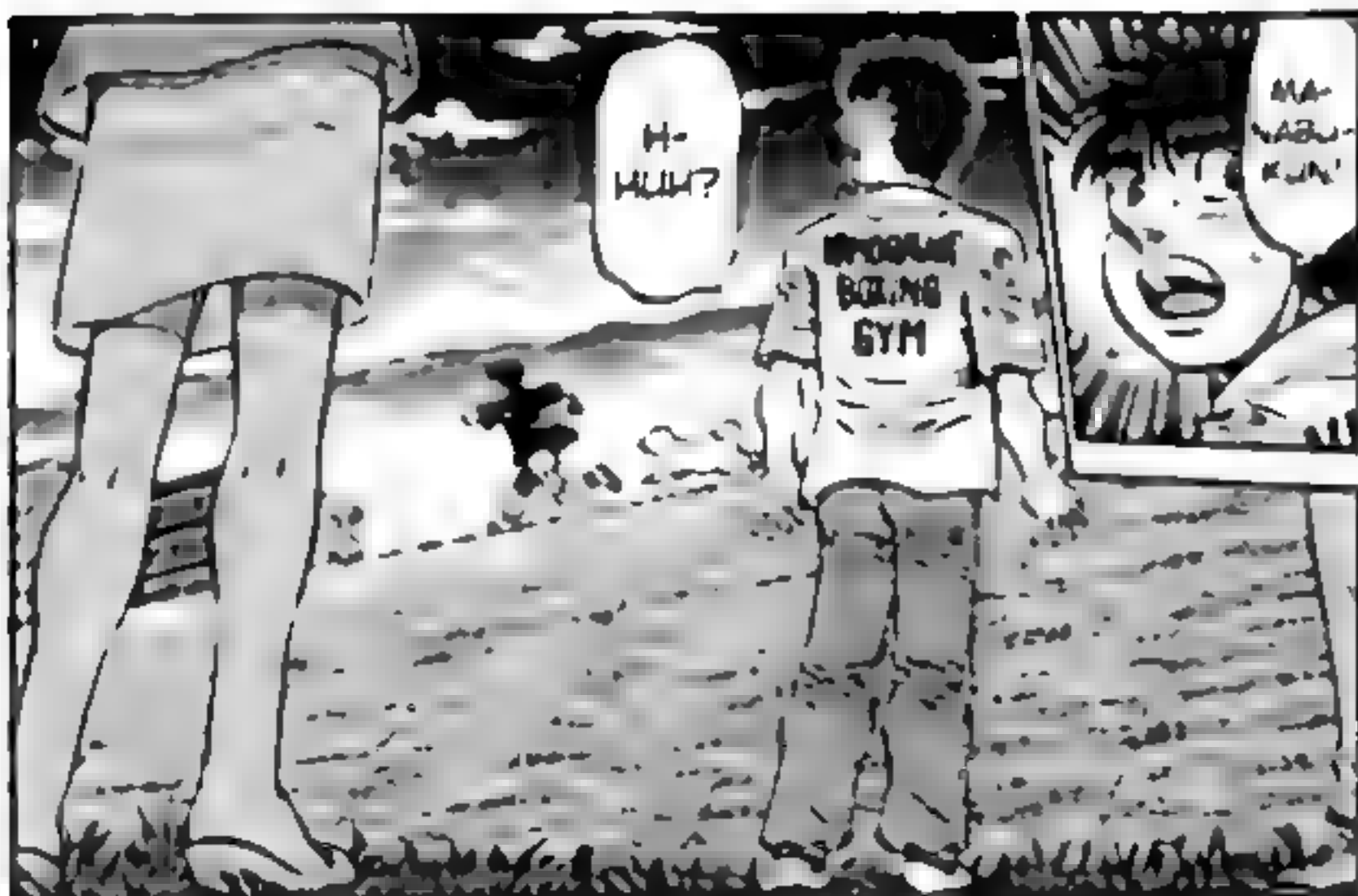


THAT
SN'T
IT.

ACTU
ALLY
"









I'M
SORRY
BUT



MANNA
-A-
THIS IS A
SATUR-
DAY



REALLY
IN THE
MOOD TO
HAVE ANY
FUN.

I'M
NOT



MANNA-
CH-SAN'S
W. WED
A. L. T. L.
THE THREE
OF US
SHOULD GO
OUT SOME-
WHERE



DON'T
GET TOO
CARRY-
UP IN THE
ROOM
NOW

S-SORRY
BUT YOUR
MOM IS
STILL A
WAYS OFF,
SO

KAMOGAWA









I THINK HE'S BEEN REALLY STRONG EVER SINCE HE STARTED BOXING.

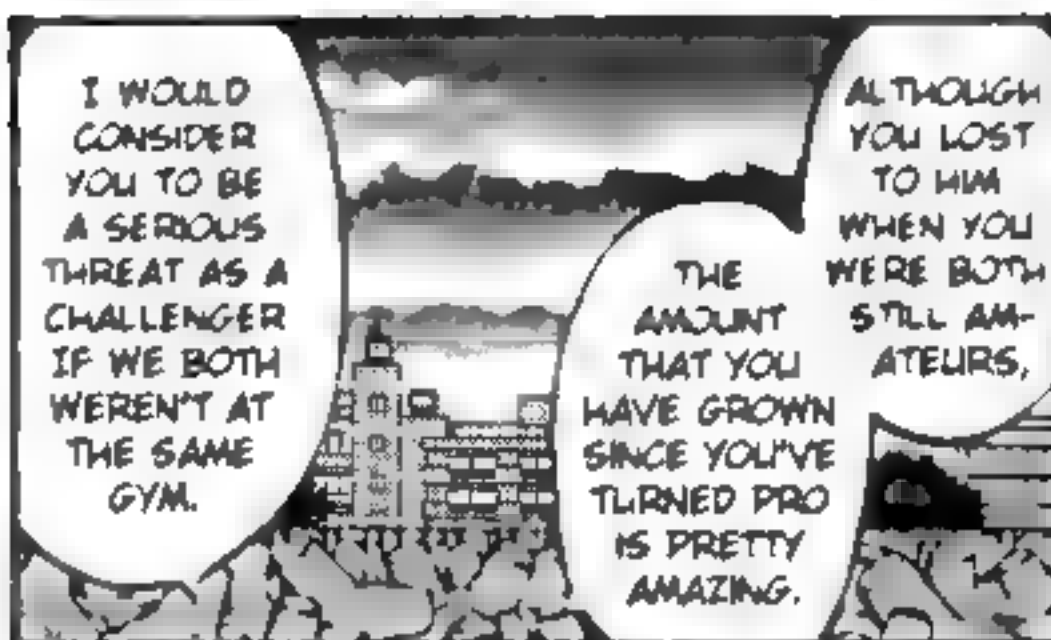
CONFIDENCE.

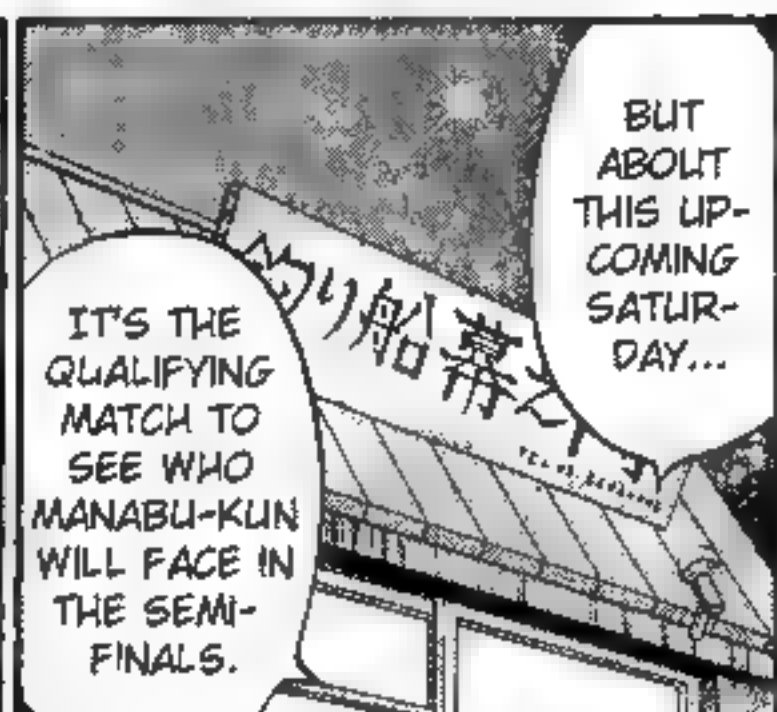


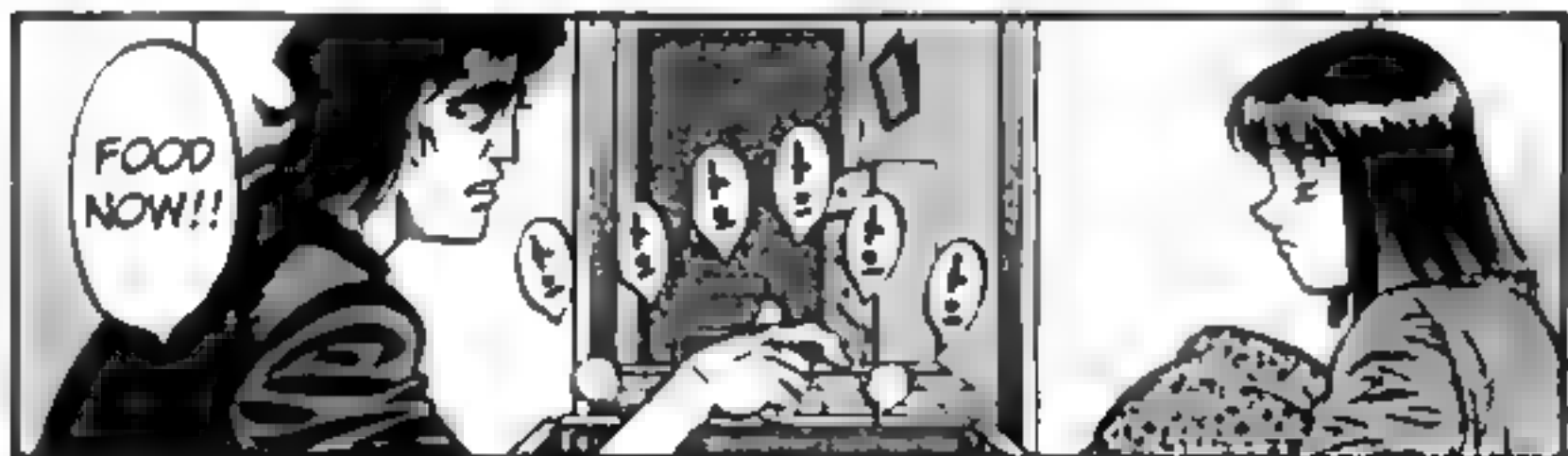
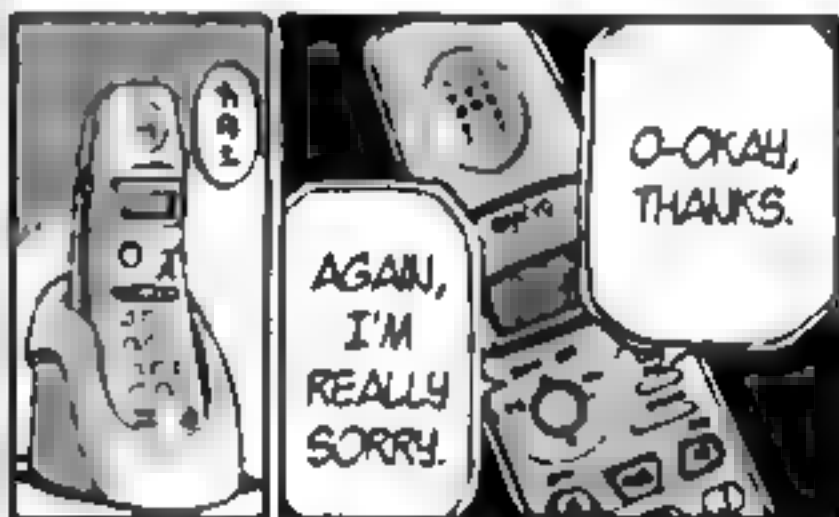
BUT THERE'S ONE GUY THAT SHATTERED ALL OF THAT.

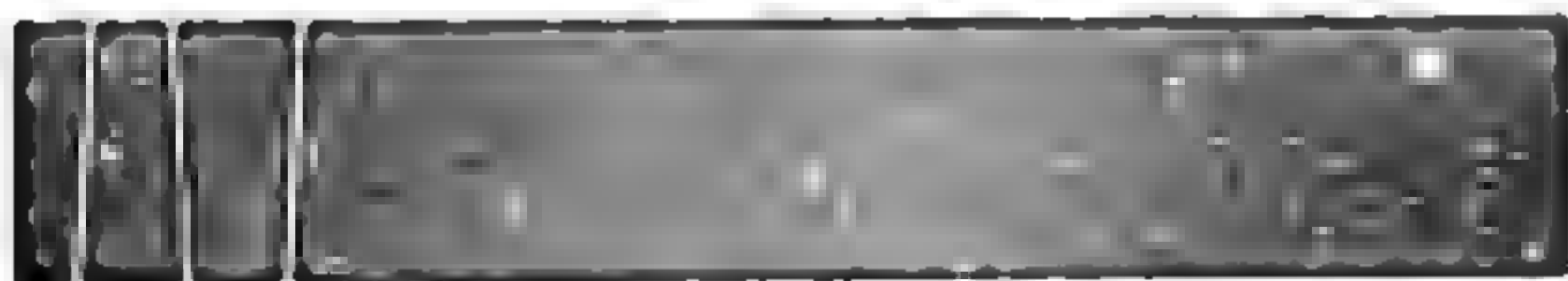


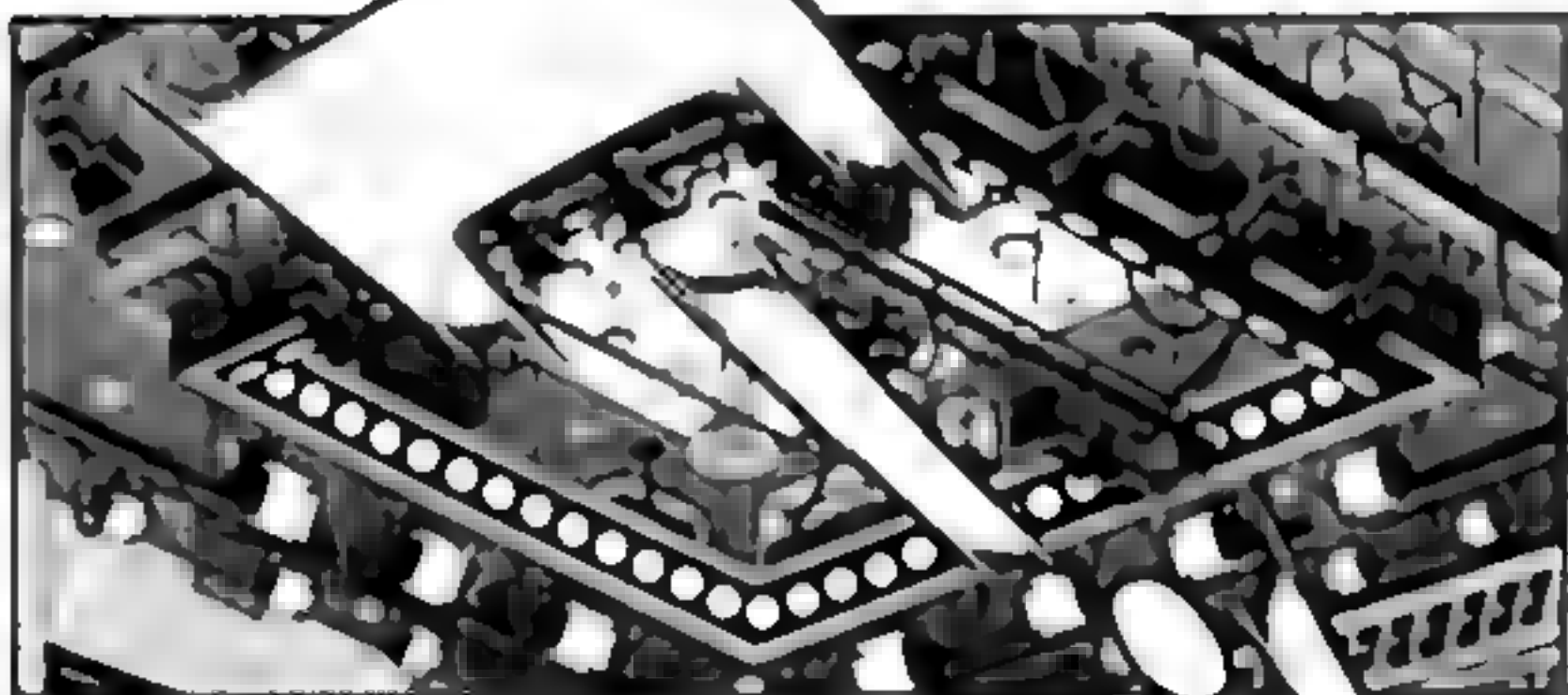


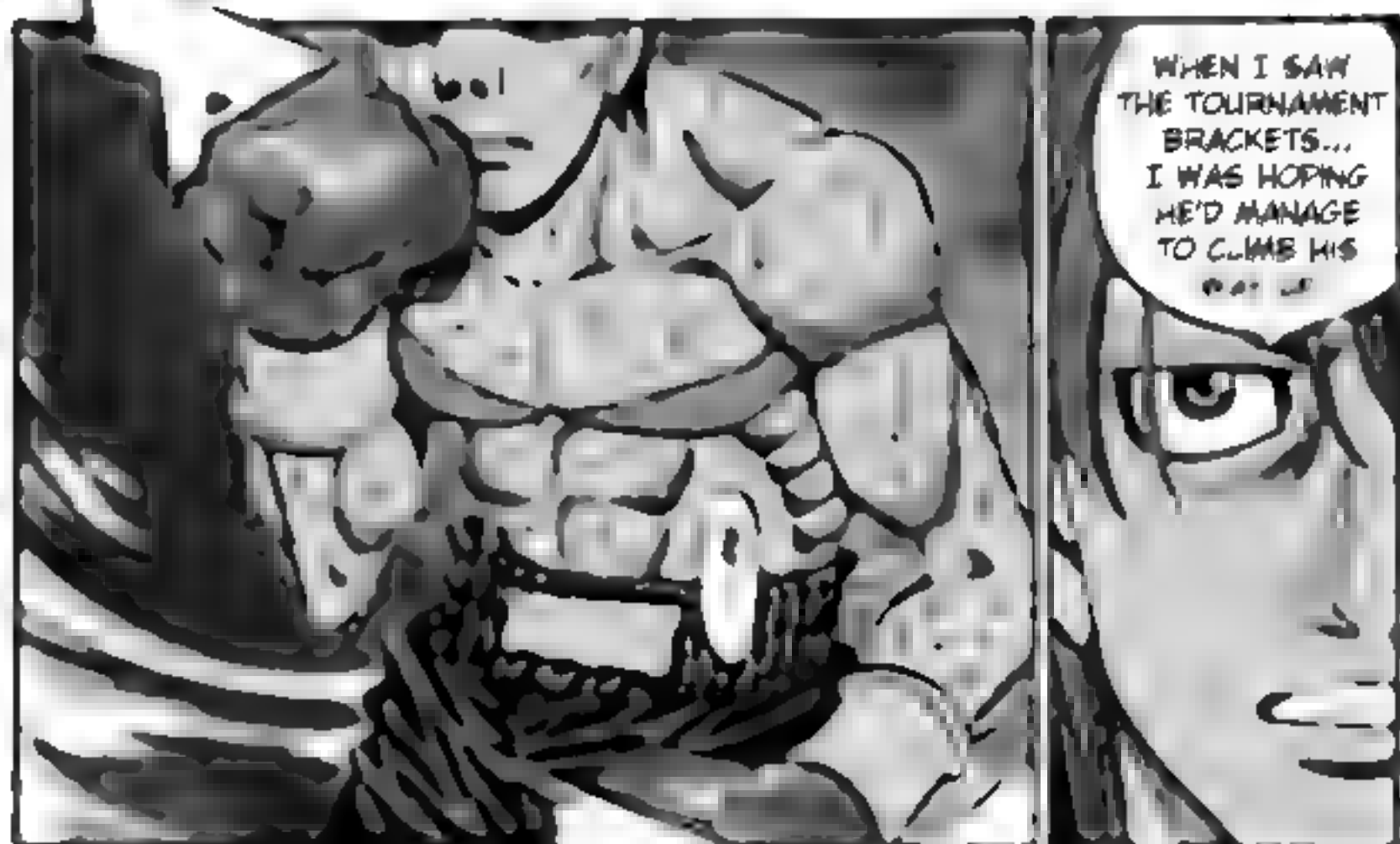






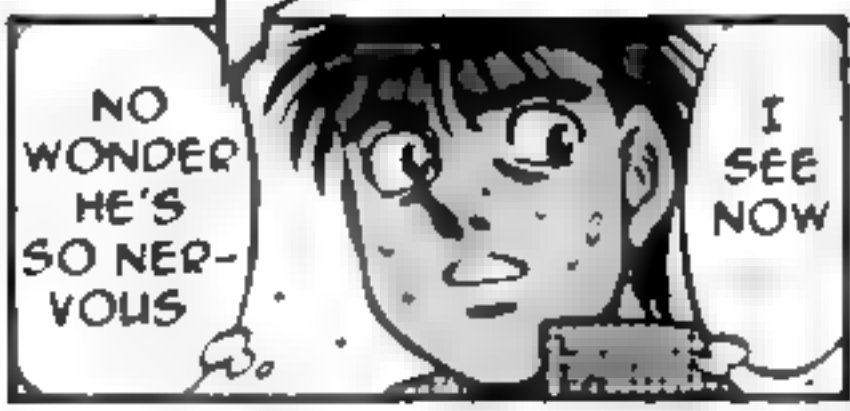









MAKINO
FLIMITO
...



NO
WONDER
HE'S
SO NER-
VOUS

I
SEE
NOW



THE
PERSON
THAT I
FACED IN
MY DEBUT
MATCH...



BUT
THINGS
CERTAINLY
APPEAR
TO HAVE
BECOME
TROUBLE-
SOME.

I ALWAYS
WANTED TO
PAY HIM BACK
IF I EVER
GOT IN THE
RING AGAIN
WITH HIM.

IN OTHER
WORDS,
MY FIRST
AND ONLY
LOSS.



THOSE
FLICKERS
TEND TO



AH!

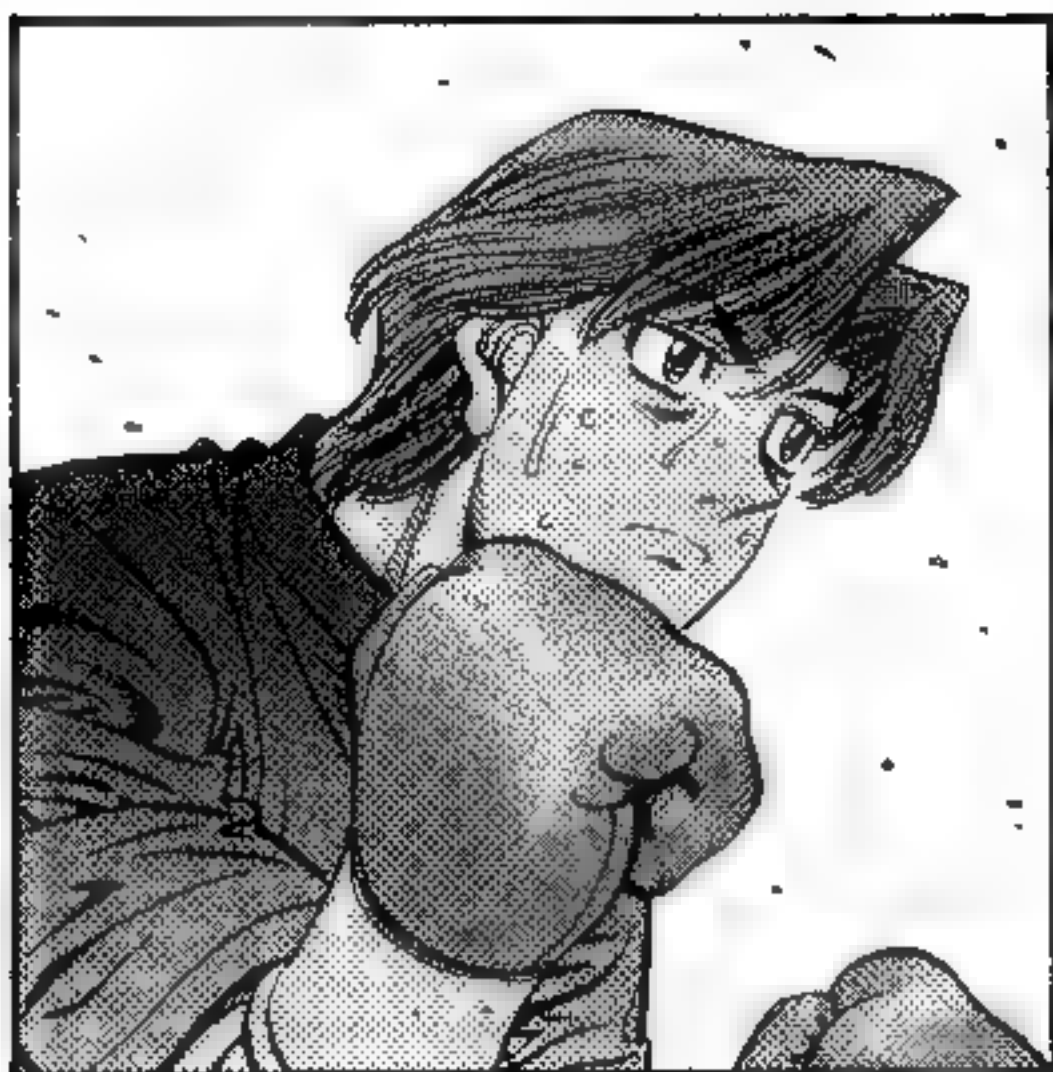


FOULING
LIKE IT'S
NO BIG
DEAL.

AND IN
ADDITION
TO THAT,
HE STEPS
ON FEET,
EVEN HEAD
BUTTS, AND
HOLDS.

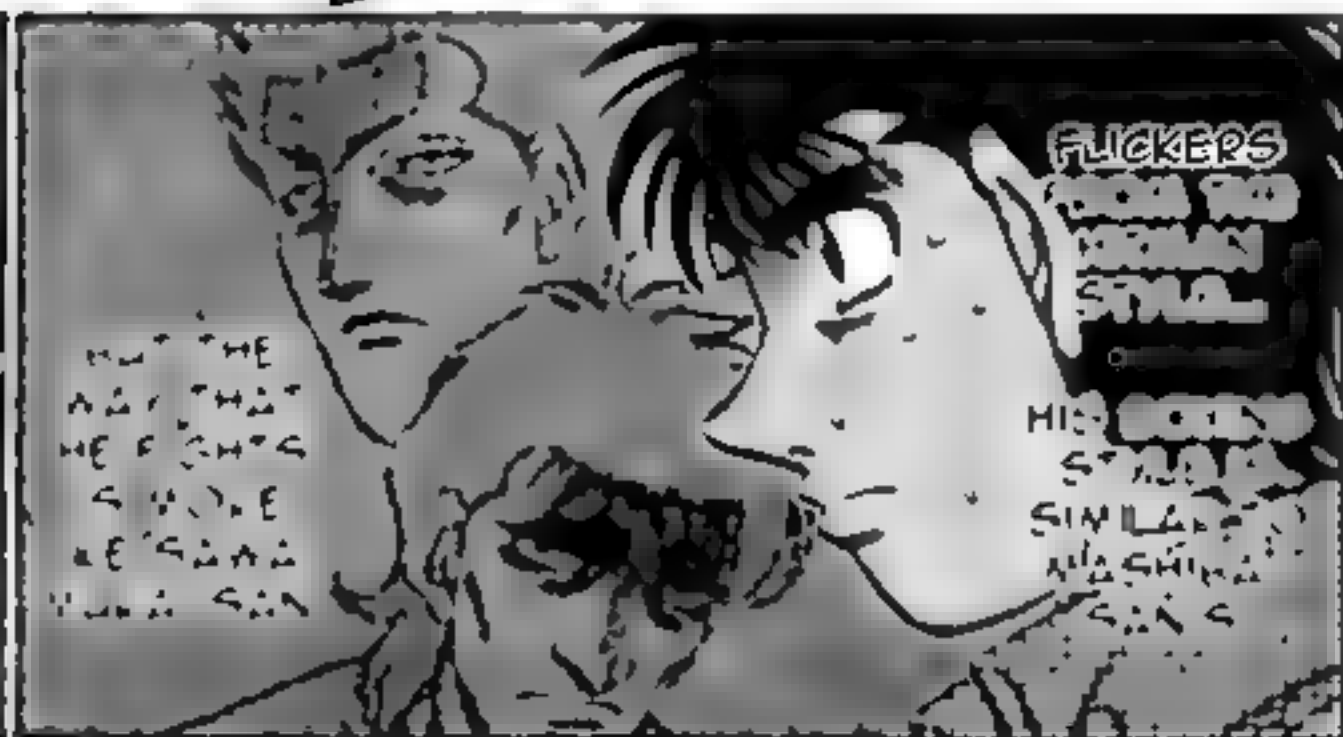


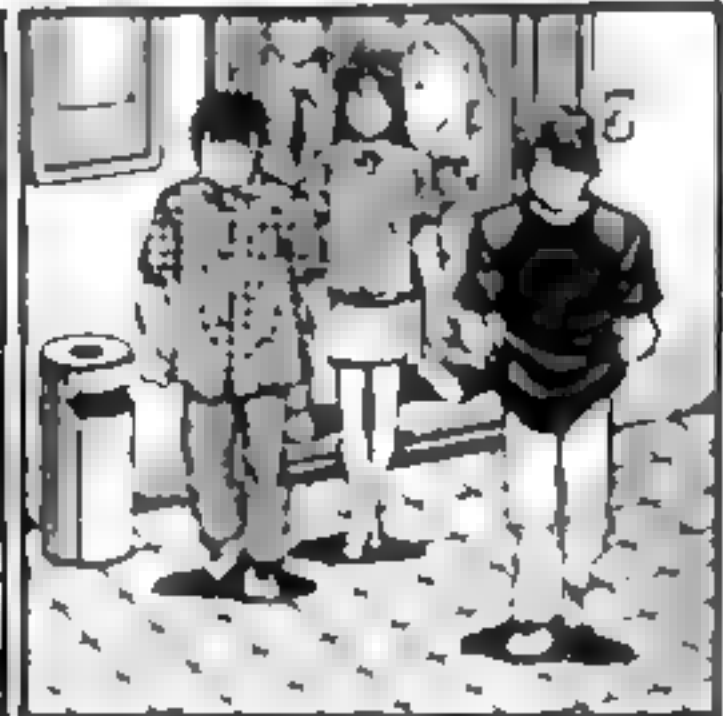
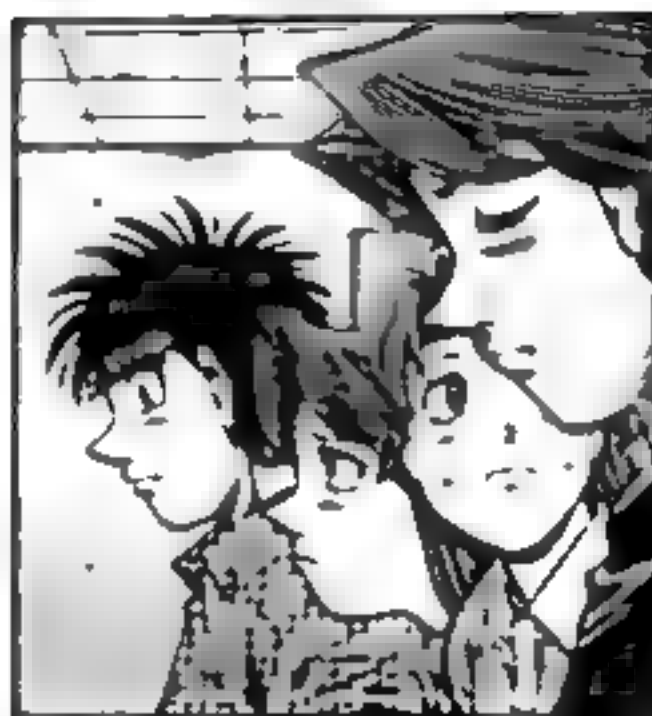
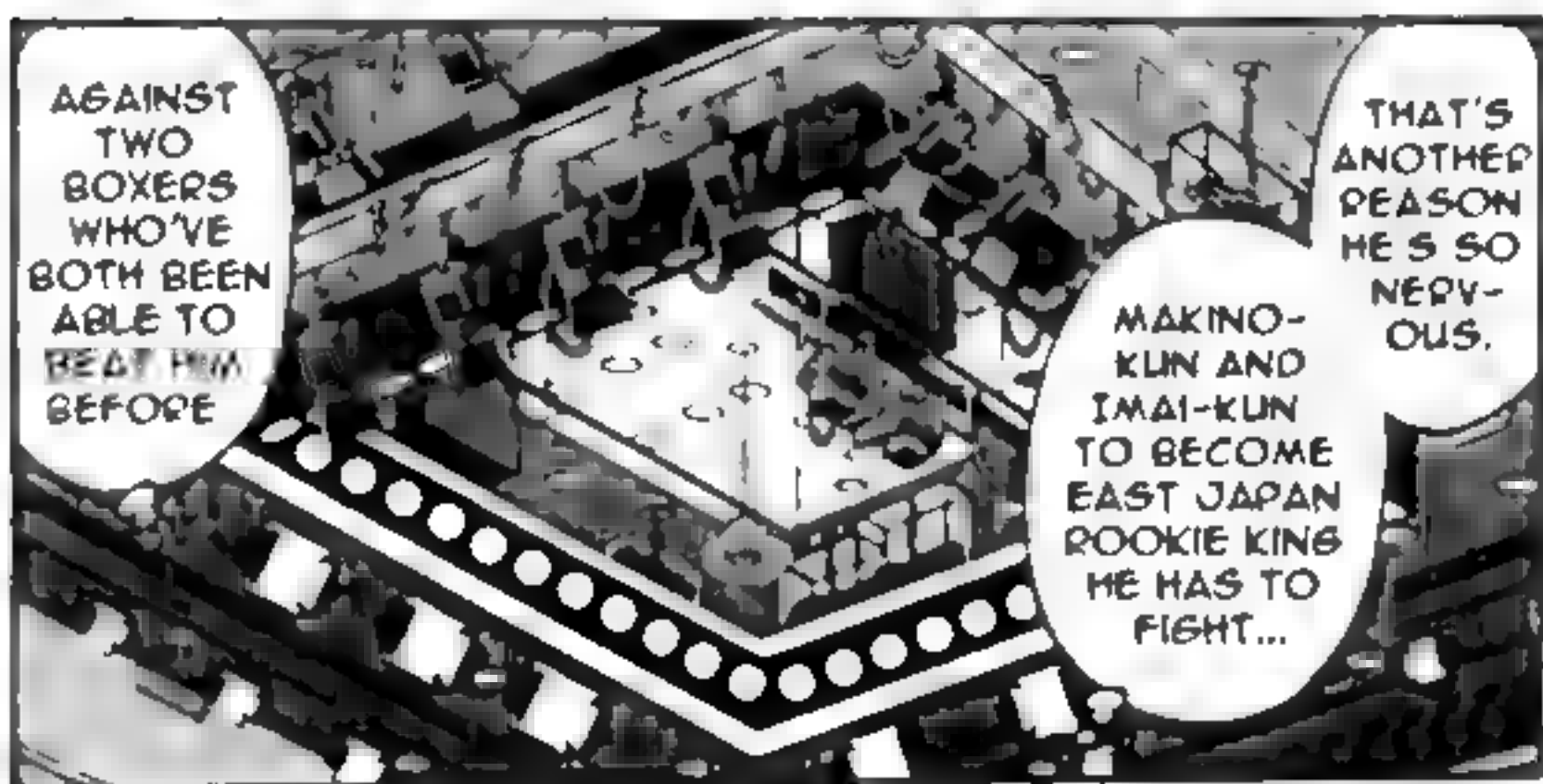
はじめての一步

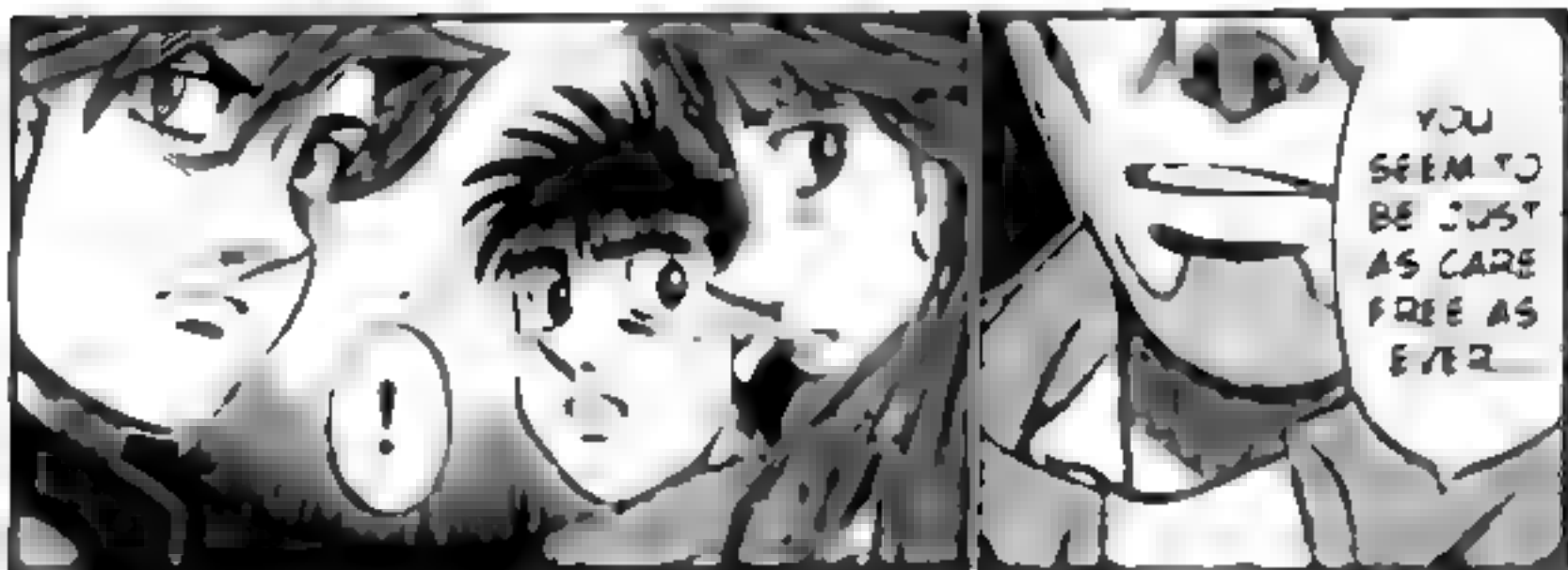
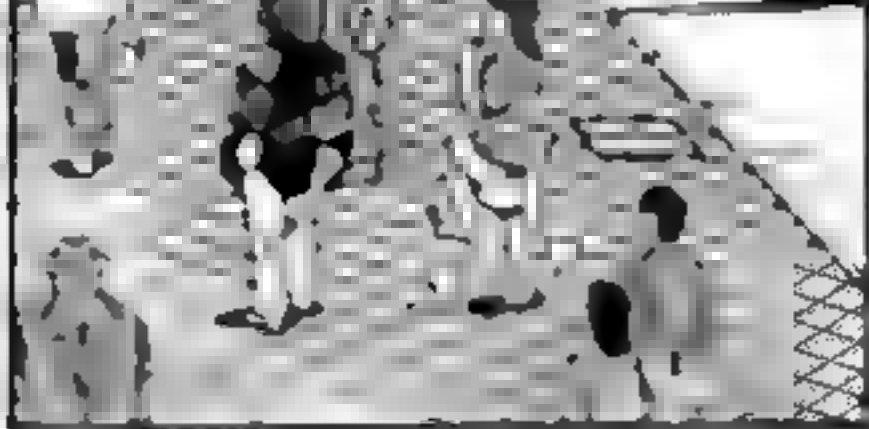




はじめての THE FIGHTING!! 一歩











BUT I
TELL YOU,
I'VE GOT TO
ENVY YOU.

THOUGH YOU
MIGHT TRIP
UP AGAIN IF
YOU'RE NOT
CAREFUL.



HE'S NOT
GONNA
TRIP UP

MY MY
I IMAGINE
IT MUST
BE VERY
NICE

HAVING A
GIRLFRIEND
TO LIFT
UP YOUR
SPIRITS.



DON'T GET
THE WRONG
IDEA NOW,
MAKINO-
KUN

WHAT
?

HE ISN'T
EVEN
GONNA
NEED ANY
CHEERING
UP

HE'S
GONNA
KICK THAT
PEBBLE
ASIDE







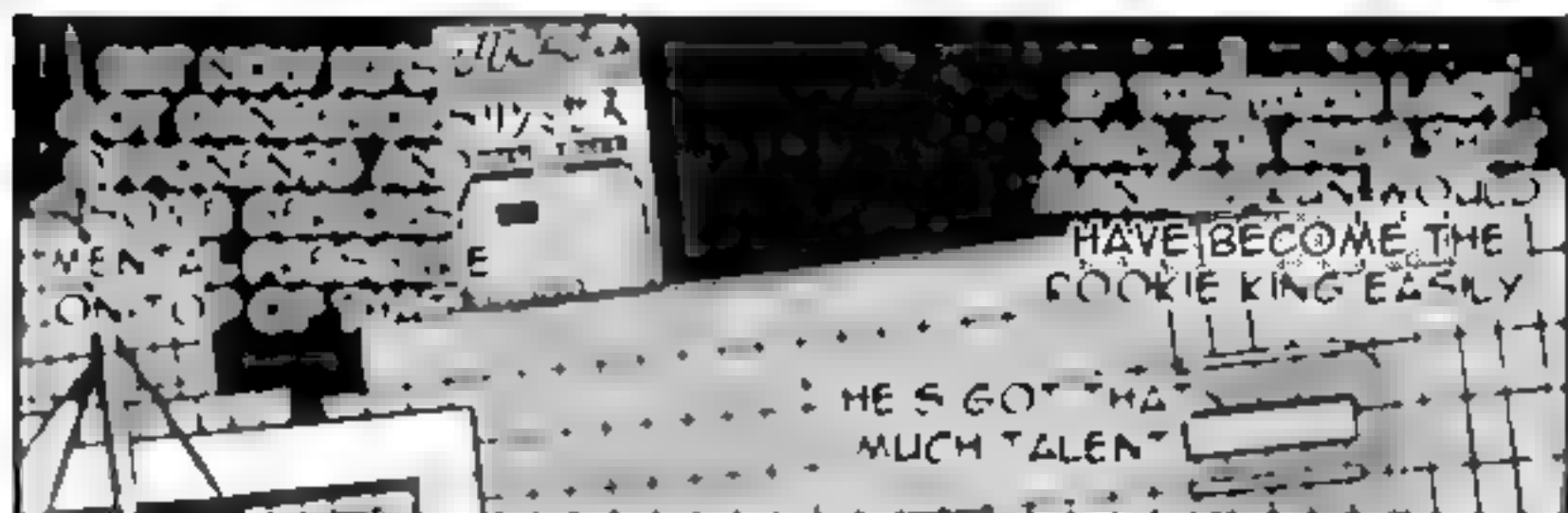






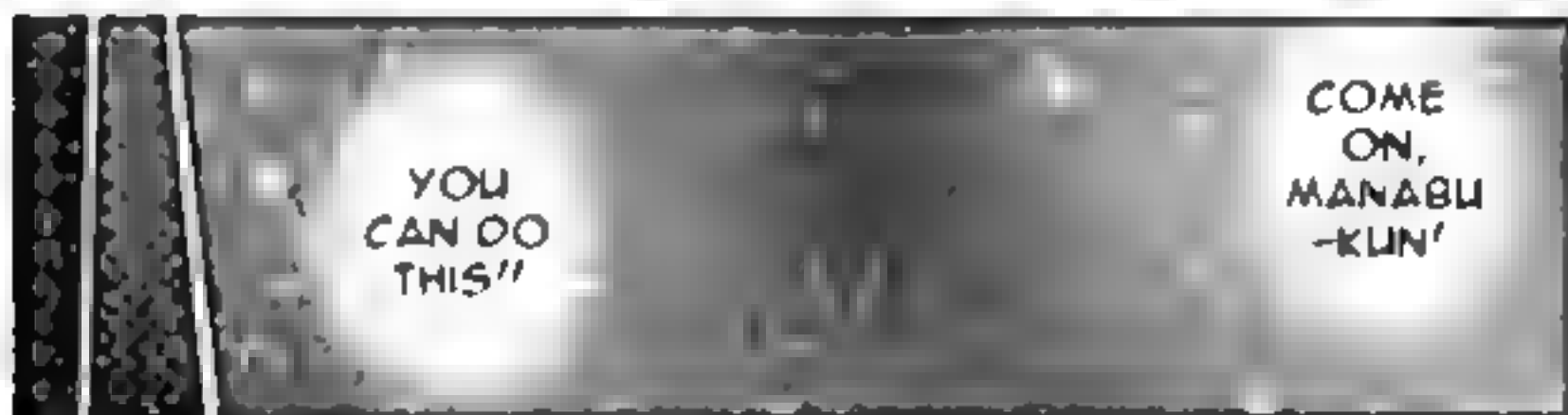
AND
MAKINO-
KUN
SEEMS
PRETTY
EERIE

IMAI-
KUN
SEEMS
TO BE
PRETTY
CONFIDENT



IF YOU WERE LAST
YEAR TO BE THE
ROOKIE KING YOU WOULD
HAVE BECOME THE
ROOKIE KING EASILY

HE'S GOT THAT
MUCH TALENT



YOU
CAN DO
THIS!

COME
ON,
MANABU-
KUN!

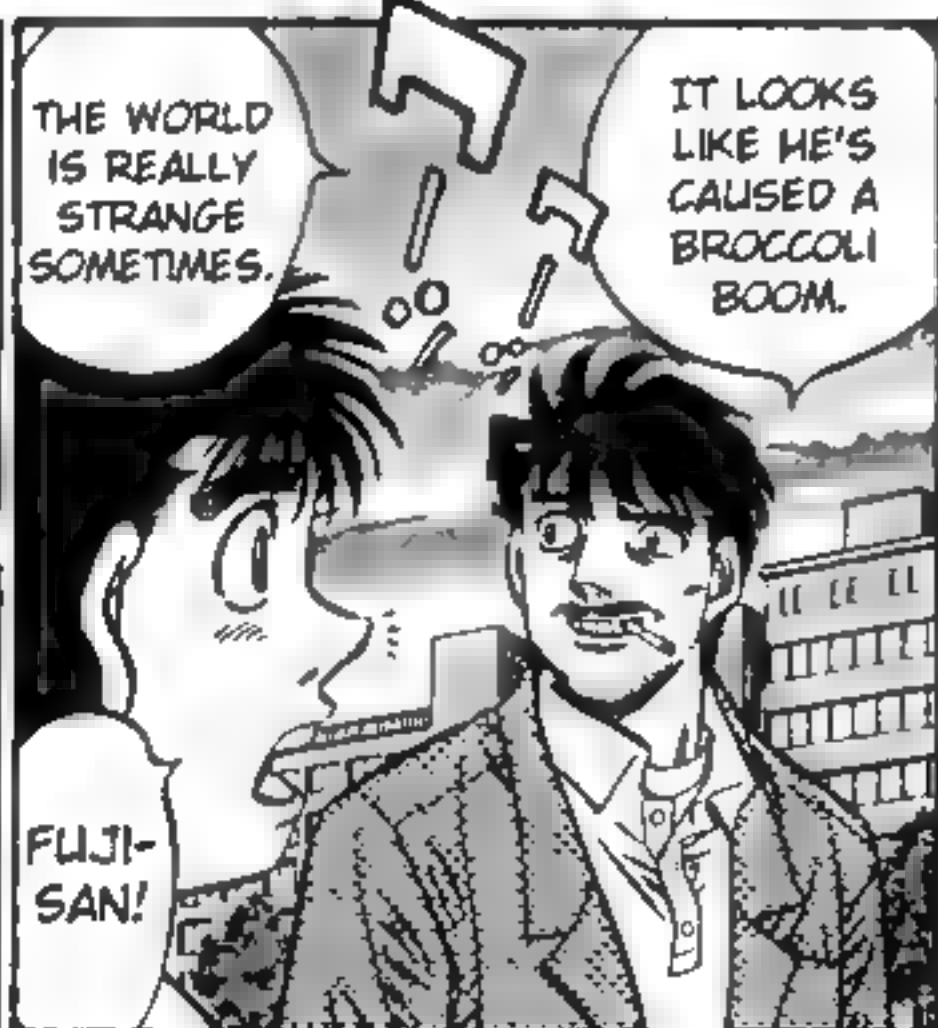








ED: A UFO BECAUSE KIMURA'S "BATTERY" RESEMBLES A CROOK CIRCLE



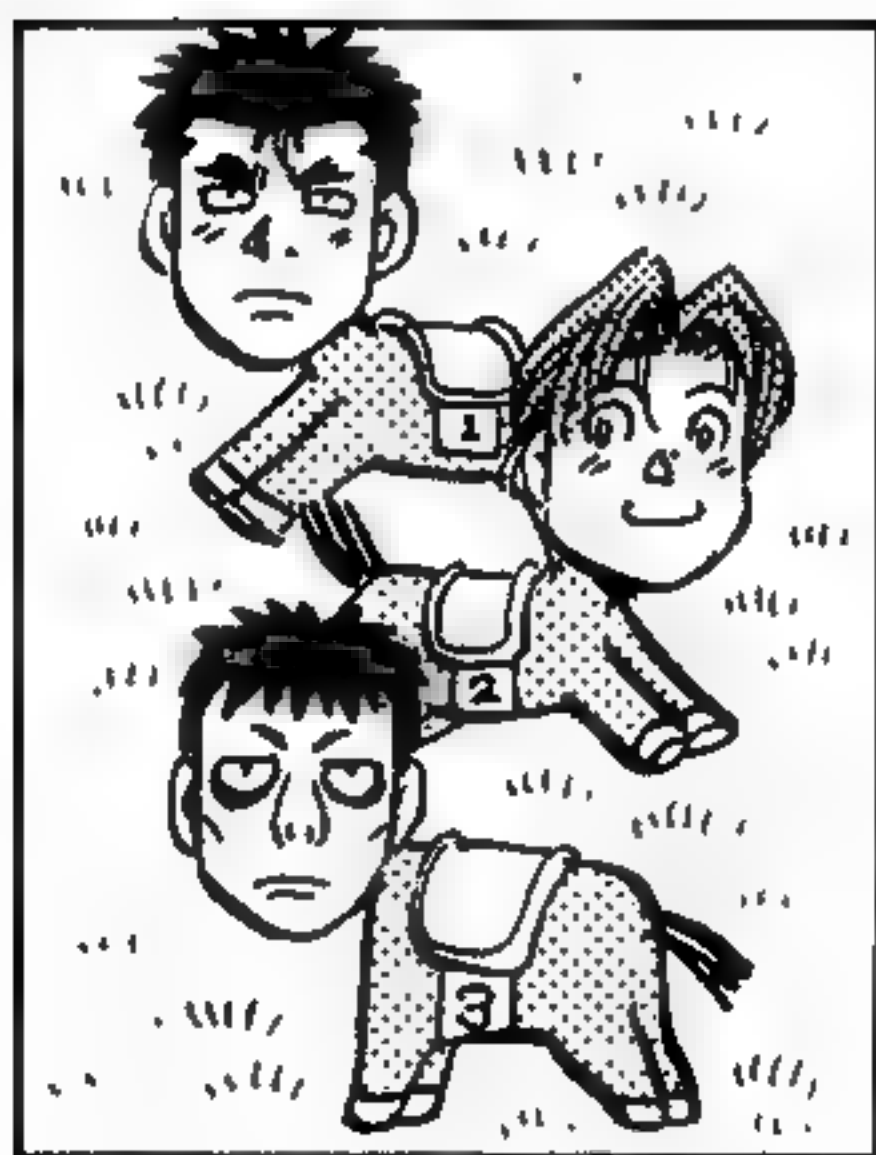








はじめての一步





はじめての THE FIGHTING! 一歩











UWA

OVER
REAL
QUICK.

IT'LL
BE

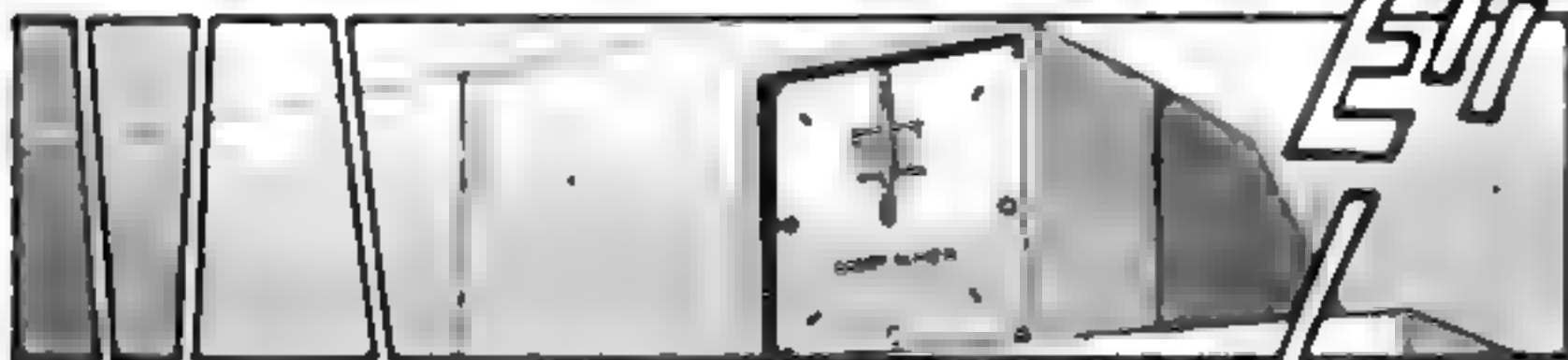


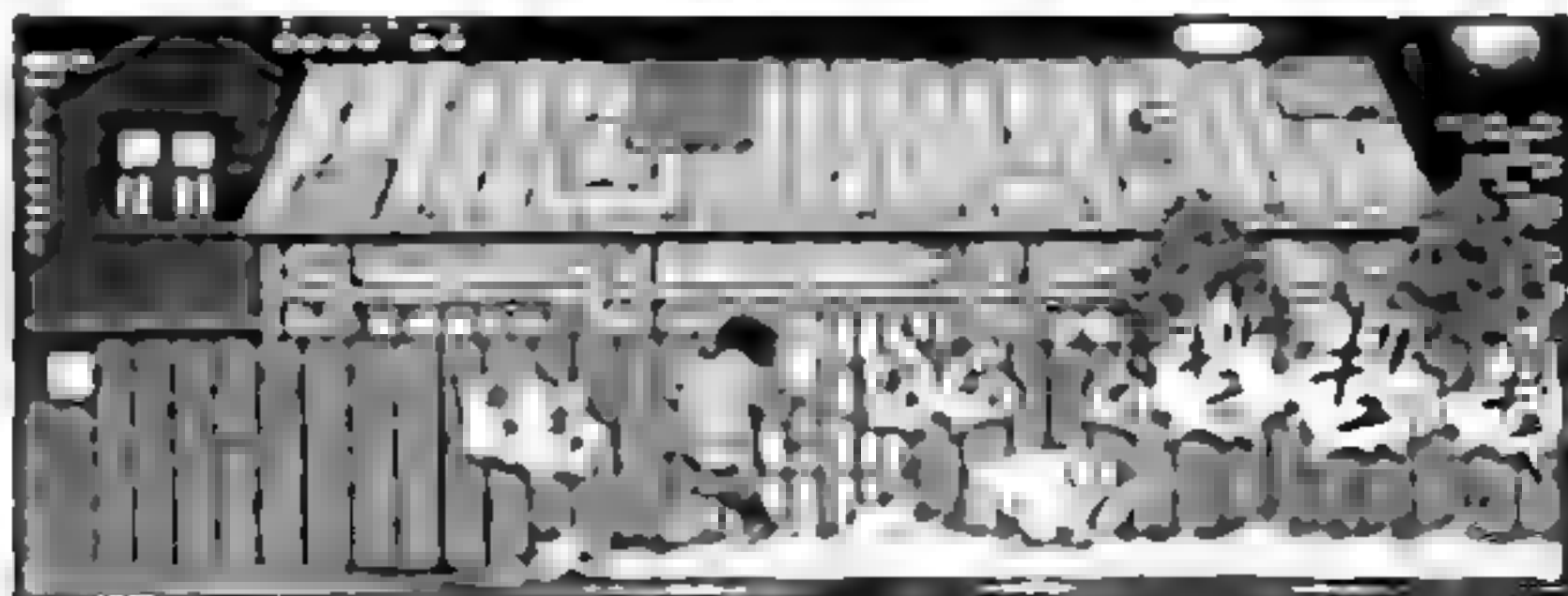
...



THERE'S
NOTHING
QUITE LIKE
SEEING THE
REAL THING
IN ACTION.

THIS
IS IT!

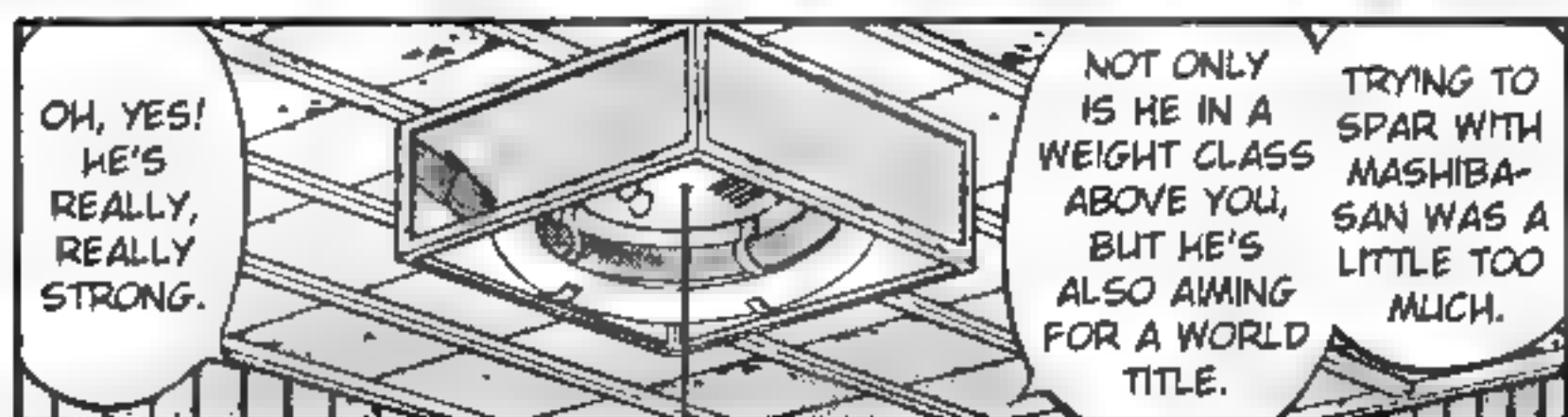




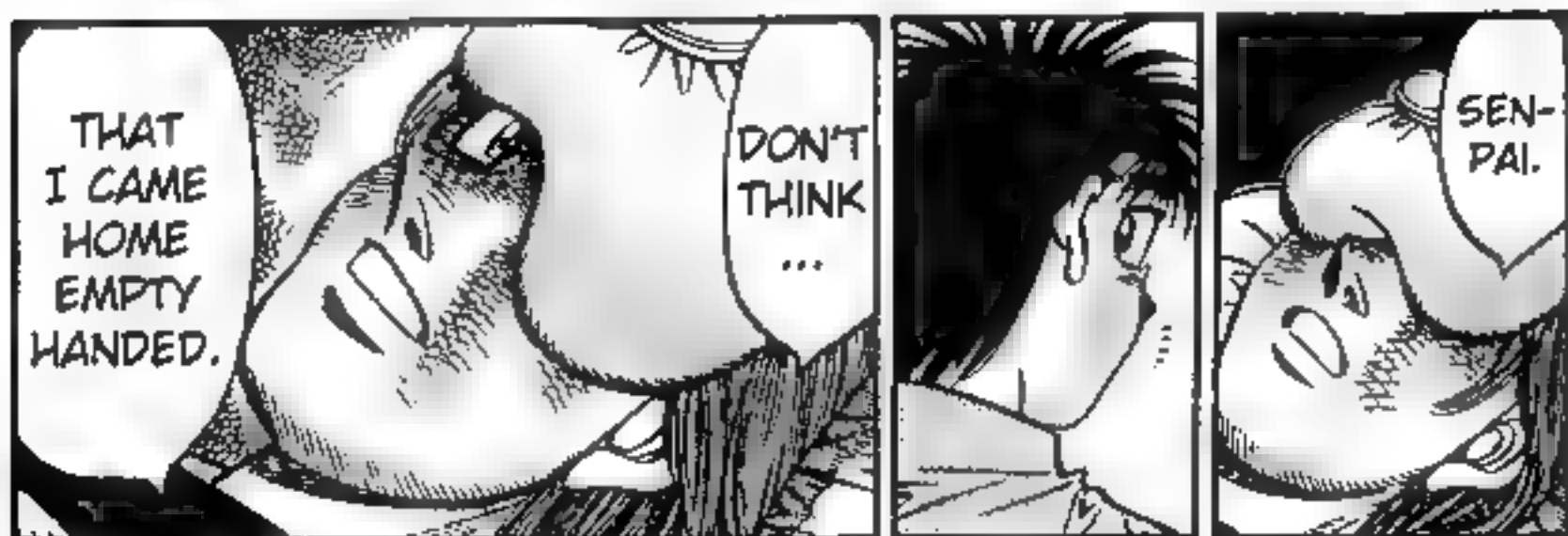


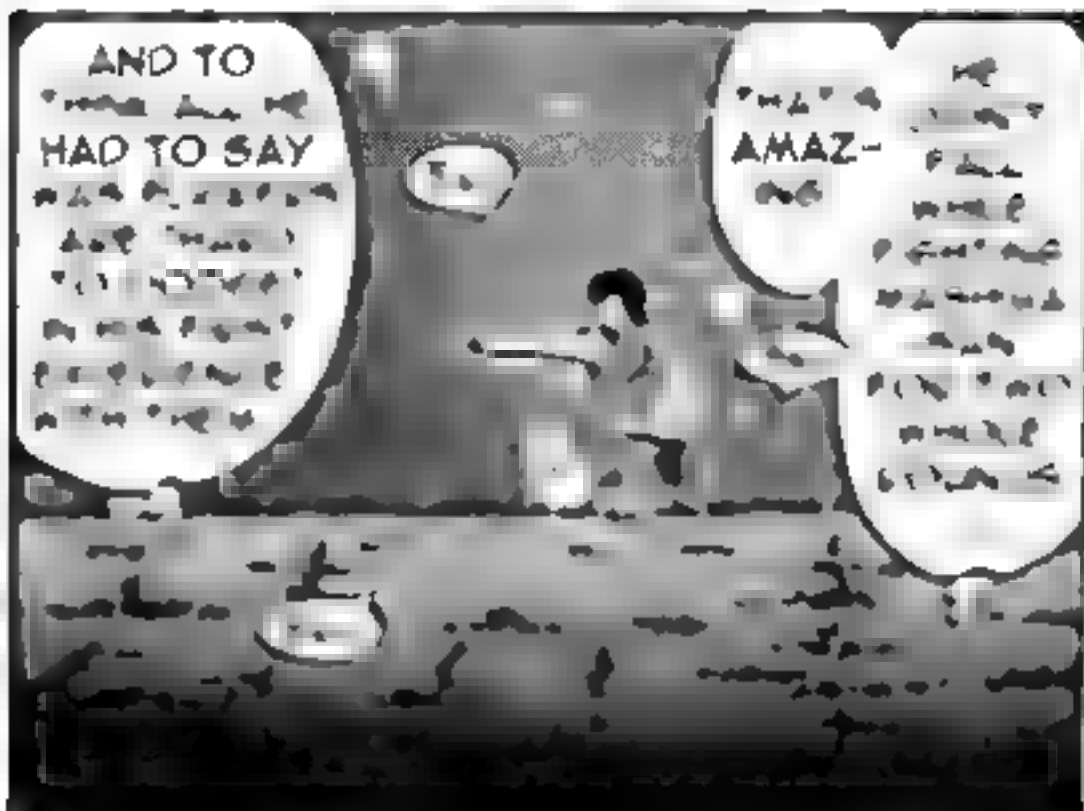
ONIMARU SAYS: "THIS WOULD'VE BEEN A FUN, BUT ITAGAKI'S DAD LET OUT A WET FART INSTEAD OF A PROPER ONE WHICH WOULD GO 'BUUUU'."





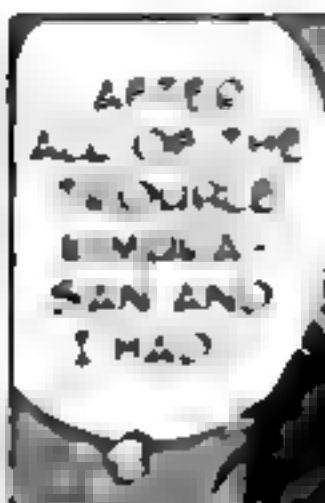
ED: THE DETROIT HITMAN STYLE IS NAMED AFTER ITS CREATOR, WORLD CHAMPION THOMAS "HITMAN" HEARNES, AND HIS HOME TOWN. IT IS AN OFFENSIVE STYLE THAT IS ABLE TO PRODUCE AN ASSORTMENT OF FASTER JABS BY LOWERING THE NON-DOMINANT ARM, BUT AT THE COST OF A WEAKENED DEFENSE BECAUSE OF THE LOWERED GUARD. A MORE DEFENSIVE COUNTER VERSION EXISTS CALLED THE PHILADELPHIA HITMAN STYLE. IT WAS USED BY "SMOKIN'" JOE FRAZIER AND IS EMPLOYED FROM TIME TO TIME IN THE SERIES BY ICHIRO MIYATA. - TAKEN FROM JOLT: THE HAJIME NO IPOO RESOURCE CENTER ([HTTP://IPOO.CONFUSEDATED.COM](http://ipoo.confusedated.com))



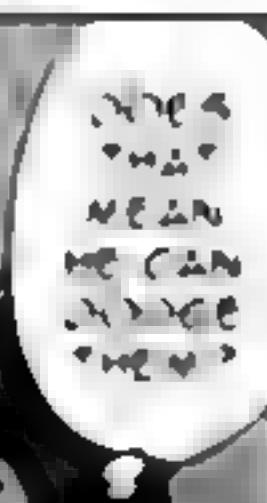




THAT
IS
TRUE



AFTER
ALL (IF THE
"TWO"
LEVEL A-
SAN AND
I HAD)



THE
"TWO"
MEAN
HE CAN
CHANGE
THE



I'M
SURE
MASHIBA-
SAN
CAN

EVEN IF
I'M
ALREADY
IN THE
HEAT



YOU MEAN
TO TELL ME
HE FIGURED
SOMETHING
OUT!?



BUT THAT
COULDN'T
BE HELPED!
AFTER ALL,
HE WAS
FIGHTING
AGAINST
MASHIBA-
SAN.

BUT
STAY
HE JUST
END UP
GETTING
HIS ASS
BEAT



QUIT GETTING SO EXCITED JUST BECAUSE YOU BET ON ITAGAKI.

HE'LL WIN!!



GETTING BEAT ON.

EVEN SO, IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE ALL THAT HAPPENED WAS HIM



YEAH, HE'LL PROBABLY WIN.

HMMMM, THEN HE'LL PROBABLY BEAT OUT MAKINO-KUN, WON'T HE?



AFTER ALL, WE ARE ON IMAI'S SIDE.

WELL, THAT'S FINE IF MAKINO LOSES.

THE BET HAS GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!



WHY CAN'T YOU BET ON YOUR FRIENDS!?

HE'S SIDED WITH MAKINO, Y'KNOW.

THEY SAID IT WAS SOLD OUT!!



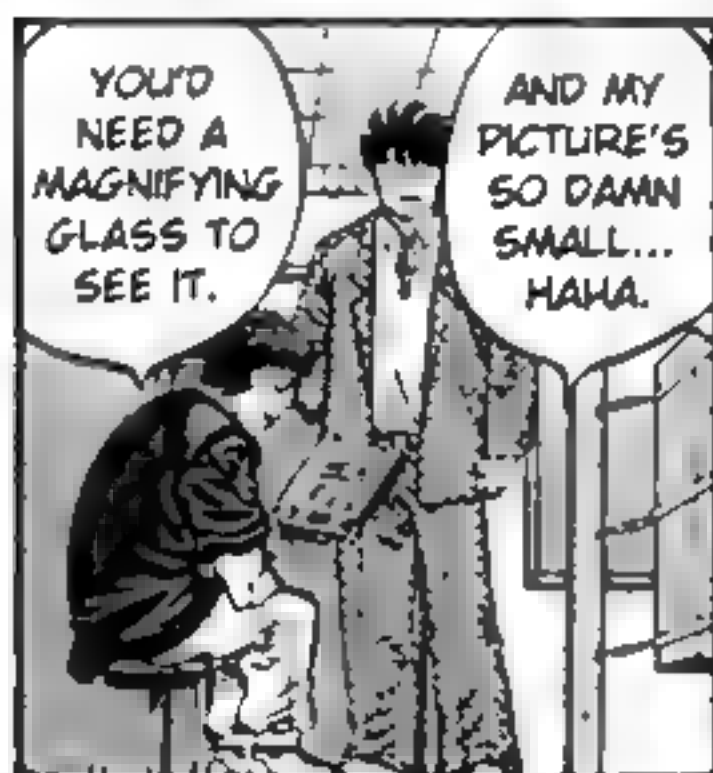
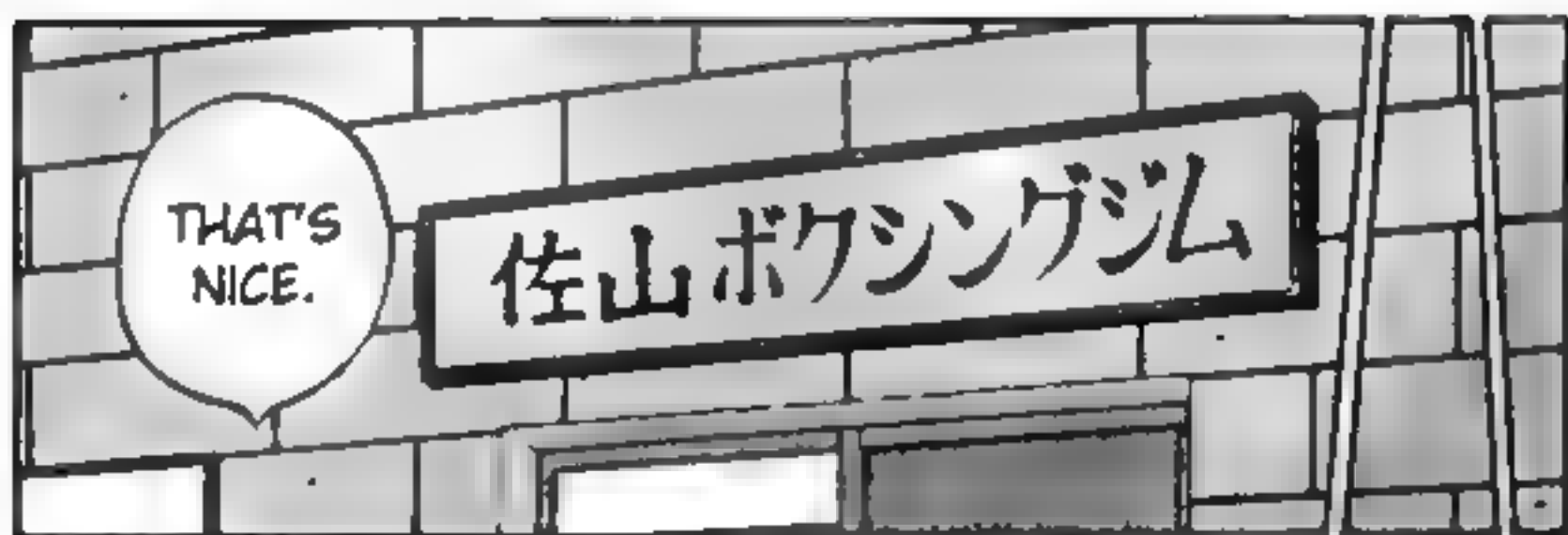
BUT WHEN MANABU-KUN WINS, ALL OF YOU HAD BETTER PAY UP!

FINE, THEN! SAY WHAT YOU WILL!

W-WHAT D'YOU MEAN IMAI'S SIDE!?



RIGHT, AOKI-SAN!?





...

AND I CAN
SEE MY-
SELF QUITE
CLEARLY IN
THE DARK-
NESS.

BUT THE
BRIGHTER
THE STAR,
THE DARKER
THE SHADOW
WILL BE.



LET'S LEAVE IT
AT THAT, MR.
REPORTER...
MAKINO HAS
TO PRACTICE.

OKAY.



ITAGAKI,
FOUGHT
IN THAT
MATCH
AGAINST
HIM...

WHEN
THAT HALF
HEARTED
SUPER
ROOKIE
FROM THE
KAMOGAWA
GYM,

HE'S
REALLY
TRYING HIS
ABSOLUTE
HARDEST.

HE MAY
BE A BIT
DOWN ON
HIMSELF,
BUT



THAT IT
WAS A
FLUKE,
THAT
SORT
OF
THING.

THE
ONLY
PEO-
PLE
WON BY
CHEAT-
ING OR
YES



PEO-
PLE
WERE

TALKING
BEHIND
HIS
BACK?

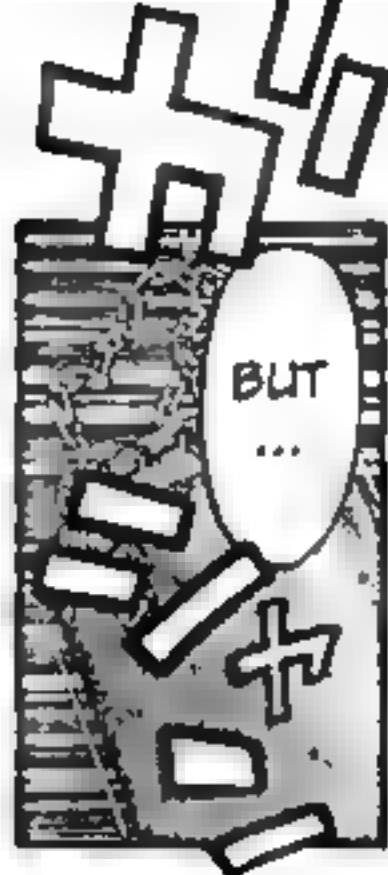


AND OF
COURSE
HE WAS
THRILLED
HIMSELF
TOO.

IT WAS
SUCH A
THRILL TO
SEE CANNON
FODDER WIN
SUCH AN
UNEXPECTED
K.O.!!

BUT
YOU
SEE

...



BUT ...

THAT WAS HIS FIRST WIN, Y'KNOW!?

THERE'S NO WAY THAT IT COULDN'T!

IT PROBABLY HURT HIS FEELINGS.



AND THEN HE STARTED TRAINING SIGNIFICANTLY MORE THAN HE EVER HAD BEFORE.

DAY IN, DAY OUT, WITHOUT HARDLY SAYING A WORD...

MAKINO DIDN'T LET IT GET HIM DOWN.



THAT'S ALL THAT HE'S SAID, AND NOW HE'S SO QUIET.

HE DOESN'T CARE HOW, SO LONG AS HE CAN KEEP ON WINNING, THE PEOPLE AROUND HIM WILL SHUT UP.



THOSE "ELITES" A THING OR TWO

HE'S GONNA SHOW





FOR A
GOOD
MATCH
FROM
HIM.

WE'LL
BE
HOP-
ING



THAT
RE-
MINDS
ME...



ABOUT
THE
STRE-
NGTH

OF AN
UNDER-
DOG.



AND PEOPLE
KEPT CALLING
IT AN UPSET
WHEN HE
WAS BEATING
ALL THE BIG
NAMES ONE
AFTER THE
OTHER.

WHEN THE
ROOKIE
TOURNEY
WAS GOING
ON, THEY
BARELY
TALKED
ABOUT HIM
AT ALL.

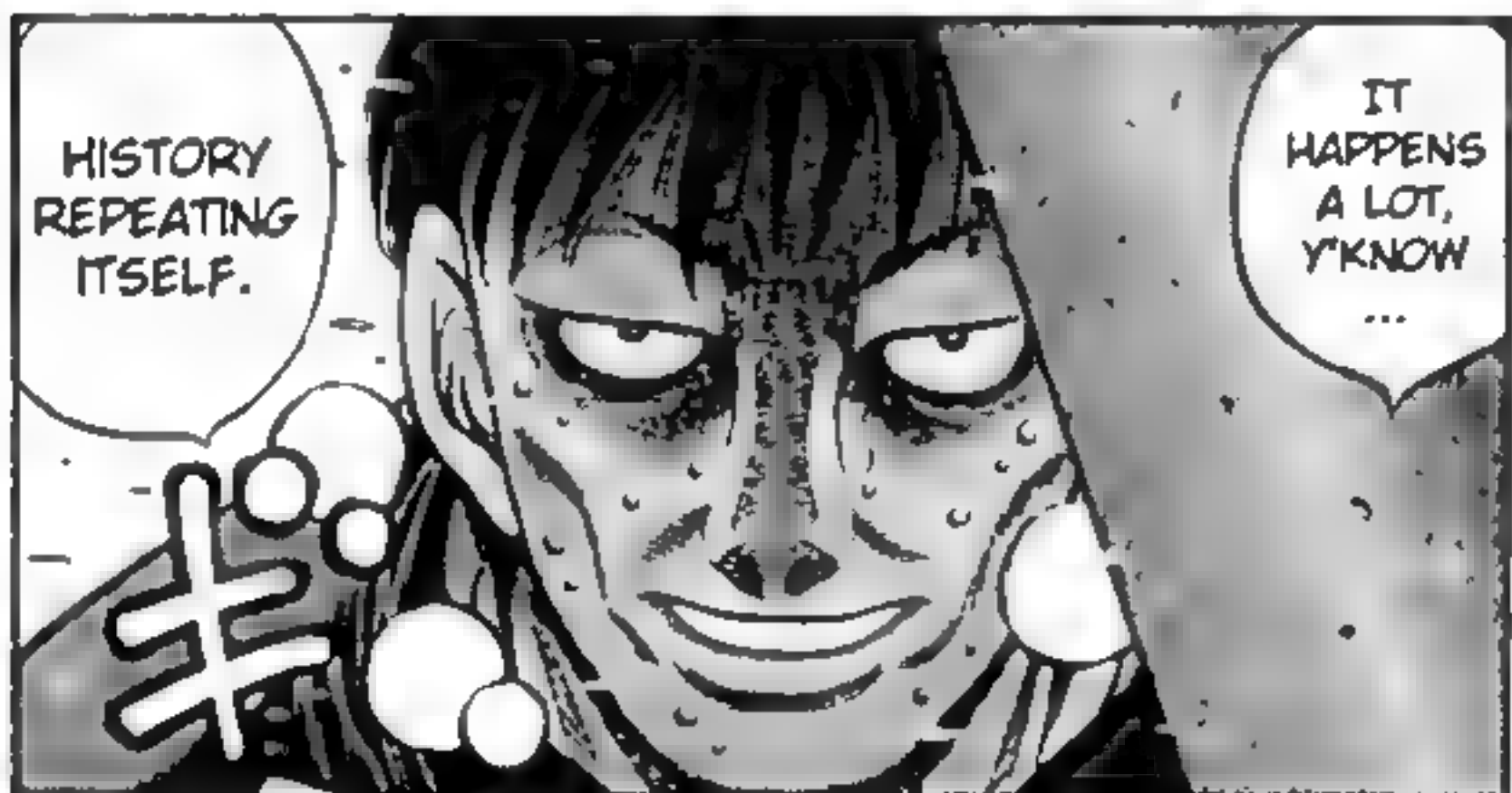


CHAM-
PION?

IS HE
TALKING
ABOUT
IPPO
KUN?



THE
CURRENT
CHAMPION
WAS LIKE
THAT TOO,
RIGHT?

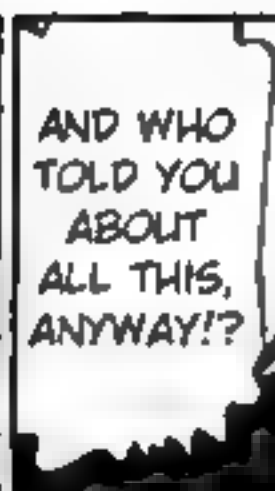


HISTORY
REPEATING
ITSELF.

IT
HAPPENS
A LOT,
Y'KNOW
...

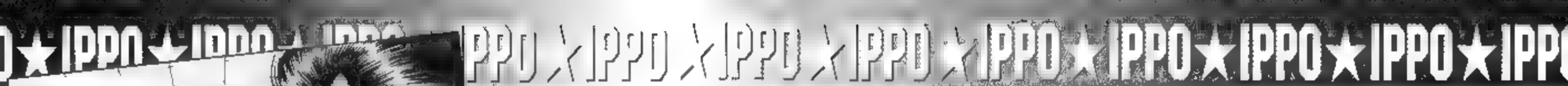






DATE
DI-SAN
!!





Mori: Right. Actually I'm really bad at gags, plus I think it's bad to force oneself to write gags. It's just that in Aoki's case, how do I put this, when I think "Let's draw Aoki, let's draw Aoki," the gags come out naturally. The guy himself is full of gags, after all. But, to be honest, sometimes I laugh when I draw Aoki. Even though I'm the one drawing it, I think "Ah, this guy is so funny!" (laughs)

Edit:(A little scared).

I'm sure he thinks he can't win if he attacks his opponents straight on. That's why he uses the Frog Punch and the Double Punch and even risks his life to play dead or do the Look Away. Even appearing naked at the weight check took a lot of guts. I wanted to show everyone the effort he makes when no one's looking, the way he musters all his wits and all his courage.

Edit: Even the poster for this match made me laugh

Mori: That's true.

Because it said "Boxing Martial Arts Show" right? I had a premonition of a funny match just by drawing that poster.

**Wonders
of all
wonders!?**
A serious
Ask!!

Above the Japanese rankings, just one punch can have the power to knock you out. What sustains you till the end is willpower, really. No matter how much you train, your punching power doesn't really change. However, I think Date had the qualifications to win. He's a character I really like, too. I wanted him to win. However, Ricardo was probably a level above him. He's seen a lot of things on the world scene and is carrying various burdens, I'm sure.

Edit: The atmosphere is completely different from all the previous posters. It looked like Imae was getting into the spirit of thing too, didn't it?

Mori: That's true (laughs). But you know, Aoki was completely serious. He always devotes himself to his matches.

Round 444 (Volume 50, published in 1999)

'Boxer's Disqualification'

[Summary] The much-awaited Japanese Lightweight Title Match is coming up soon. The champion has done his research and disparages his challenger, Aoki. After the "Frog Punch" and "Playing Dead" what new weapon will Aoki finally unveil?



Edit: Betraying the rumours (?), Takamura won, didn't he?

Mori: Yes he did, he won. Of all his matches I've drawn till now, this one was probably the most unlike Takamura. It was the fruit of his training, but maybe I should say all the results came out in that match. At the end he was punching with both eyes shut, wasn't he? That was also a result of his training.

**His desired
second
weight class
conquest!
However
there is one
riddle...**

Round 555
(Volume 61, published in 2002)

'Effort's Victory'

[Summary] Even with serious injuries, both boxers continue to swing their fists in the world title match. Even though he can't see from either eye, Takamura believes in victory and fights Eagle, conquering his second weight class!



.....

Takamura's feelings of "I'll win!" came out very clearly, I thought, but what did you think when you read it?

Edit: Yes, I thought they came out really well. However, what I'm wondering is, why is Takamura so fixated on the belt...?

Mori: Oh, that's a sharp question. Well, that is...Umm... let's look forward to the answer some day!

Edit: Guh... I knew you would say that.

START!

Who are you like!? The main Kamogawa Gym boxers + Neko-chan DEEP CHARACTER DIAGNOSIS CHART

Which character do you resemble most in the end? If you know that, the way you read "Hajime no Ippo" will probably change-dani. Answer the question and find out who you're most like-dani!

1 You find yourself adding "-dani" to the end of your words.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Yes = Nekota Ginpachi
No = Go to 2

YOU ARE NEKOTA GINPACHI

He may seem like a joke character now, but he was a really strong boxer (in his youth). He's the type that shows his true strength when he has a rival.



2 You're bad at talking to cute girls.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Yes = Go to 5
No = Go to 3

3 You have absolute confidence in your gag sense

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Yes = Go to 6
No = Go to 4

4 You have absolute confidence in your tastes

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Yes = Aoki Masaru
No = Kimura Tatsuya

7 You think gags are essential to a good meal

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Yes = Itagaki Manabu
No = Go to 9

YOU ARE ITAGAKI MANABU

He may look like an honor student who's made smart choices in his life but inside he's the complete opposite. He hates to lose. His gag sense is pretty bad.



5 You've been a class prefect or a club president before

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Yes = Go to 7
No = Go to 8

6 If you had the chance you would like a bronze statue of yourself

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Yes = Takamura Mamoru
No = Aoki Masaru

8 You think you have a lot of friends

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Yes = Go to 4
No = Go to 10

9 You think you know how to pick women

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Yes = Aoki Masaru
No = Kimura Tatsuya

10 You occasionally think: "I'm a pretty great guy!"

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
Yes = Itagaki Manabu
No = Makunouchi Ippo

Yes →
No →

YOU ARE AOKI MASARU

He has a serious personality but he is often misunderstood by those around him. "He looks like a fun guy" is the general opinion people have of him, but in reality he's a hard worker.



YOU ARE KIMURA TATSUYA

He's not the kind of guy who stands out, but he's highly trusted by those around him. He makes up for his lack of skill in finishing matches with his daily efforts and great personality.



YOU ARE MAKUNOUCHI IPPO

He's the reflective type of guy that goes at his own pace and slowly climbs upwards. He's not flashy but his great talent always gets him the glory in the end.



YOU ARE TAKAMURA MAMORU

Great in terms of richness of character and amount of power. He always leads the rest of the gang as a sort of boss, but his forcefulness causes problems too. On rare occasions he can be quite kind.



第6問 Difficulty ★★★



This is Kumi-chan and Tomiko. So which one is Kumi-chan?

<Hint> No hint! If you get this wrong, you belong to the Aoki-gumi from now on.

第5問 Difficulty ★★★

What was the title of the work that mangaka-hopeful Umezawa submitted to the "Rookie manga award" competition?



- A "Manbo, Manbo, Uul"
- B "Ma Ippou Get You!"
- C "Tsugi no Ippo"

<Hint> ...Hmm, that's right. But it was a fishing manga.

第9問 Difficulty ★★★



When Miyata was training in Thailand, he was befriended by a young boy. What was his name?

- A Chana
- B Payao
- C Jimmy

<Hint> This character first appears in Volume 15 and then shows up again in Volume 58.

第7問 Difficulty ★☆☆

When Ippo became Japanese champion, what was title of the song he sang at the "Sugar Ray" karaoke bar?

- A Champion
- B Kyoudaibune
- C Makunouchi Ippo's theme



第8問 Difficulty ★★★



What foul was the specialty of the American that the Coach and Nekota fought in their youth?

- A Lucky Punch
- B Rapid Punch
- C Rabbit Punch

<Hint> The worst foul of all: it hits the back of the head and directly damages the spine. Because of it, Nekota...

If you get more than 5 right, you're a heavyweight Ippo maniac!

It's super hard!!

'HAJIME NO IPPO' CULT-QUIZ

HURRY UP AND DO THE CULT QUIZ!



第2問 Difficulty ★★★

Shimabukuro Iwao, who Ippo fought for his 4th title defence, was from which gym?



- A Okinawa Seaside Gym
- B Okinawa Mensoure Gym
- C Okinawa Submarine Gym

<Hint> Ippo and Shimabukuro's match was dubbed "The Battle of men of the sea."

第3問 Difficulty ★★★

Round 8 of Takamura vs Hawk. What does Takamura tell the coach as he faces the ring?

"I'll come back when I'm ____!"

- A Champ B King C Aoki

<Hint> His first and last lines in the entire volume. It may have been a bit of service for those familiar with Takamura's way of talking.

第4問 Difficulty ★☆☆

A sign placed at the fishing hole: "No Takamuras allowed." What other things are forbidden over there?

- A Ippos B Papayas
- C Yagis

<Hint> When you piss off a normally gentle guy he can be really scary!?

第1問 Difficulty ★★★

What new weapon did Aoki pull out in his match with Imae (Japanese Lightweight Title Match)?

- A Look-away
- B Frog Punch
- C Tomiko



<Hint> A skill with a pedigree, used by former world champion Wajima Kouichirō!

Answers

So, how did you do in the quiz? M-maybe you couldn't even get past #1?...Oh my. People like that should read all over again from Volume 1. But that would be nice, won't it? Incidentally, the people who got all the 3-star difficulty questions correct belong in the heavyweight class! Congratulations!

Question 1 - A (R454) Question 6 - B (R355)
Question 2 - A (R418) Question 7 - A (R269)
Question 3 - B (R394) Question 8 - C (R407)
Question 4 - C (R520) Question 9 - A (R126)
Question 5 - B (R506) *R is short for Round

SHOW THESE OLD EYES

HOW BIG OF AN IPPO MANIAC YOU ARE



That was total hell, let me tell you. And now that you're told, I'll let you forget about it.

Anyway, the little interview and activity thingy you just looked through was originally published at the back of Hajime no Ippo volume 61. However, due to time restraints during the Christmas release (of 2005, for all you late readers), and the fact that I simply didn't want to sit down for 5 hours and edit it, it was released today (Jan 12, 2006) accompanying the majority of volume 68. Hopefully no one cares about the odd placement of it, and honestly, after all the shit I just went through, if you do care, fuck off.

-Snoopy

~~~~~

# SnoopyCool.com

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はじめの**いっぽ**  
61

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